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Vice Admiral Alexander Sharp, Jr., U.S. Navy, Retired

Sharp, Alexander

Monterey, California. Naval Postgraduate School

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VICE ADMIRAL ALEXANDER SHARP, JR., U.S. NAVY, RETIRED

Vice Admiral Sharp, born in Washington, D.C., August 13, 1885 is the son of the late Captain Alexander Sharp, USN, and Mrs. Josephine Hand Sharp. He attended schools in the United States, Japan, Germany, and Switzerland. He studied at Werntz' Preparatory School, Annapolis, Maryland, immediately prior to his appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy in 1902 by the late President Theodore Roosevelt. While a Midshipman he was a member of the fencing team which won the Intercollegiate Fencing Meet and received the coveted "Iron Man" fencing trophy.

Graduated in February 1906, he served the two years at sea then required by law before being commissioned Ensign on February 13, 1908. His subsequent promotions were as follows: Lieutenant (jg), February 13, 1911; Lieutenant, January 16, 1913; Lieutenant Commander, November 20, 1917; Commander, December 31, 1921; Captain, July 1, 1931; Rear Admiral, July 1, 1940; and Vice Admiral (temporary), on August 22, 1942, while serving as Commander, Service Force, Atlantic Fleet. He reverted to permanent rank of Rear Admiral on October 11, 1944, and was promoted to the rank of Vice Admiral on the date of his retirement, September 1, 1946.

After graduation from the Naval Academy in 1906, Vice Admiral Sharp joined the USS MINNEAPOLIS, which participated in the Cuban Pacification Expedition that year. Detached in November 1906, when she was decommissioned, he joined the USS CONNECTICUT, and served as watch and division officer in that battleship when she made the cruise around the World with the Battle Fleet in 1907-1909. Detached in May 1911, he had duty until July 1913 at the Naval Gun Factory, Navy Yard, Washington, D.C. Thereafter he again had sea duty as first lieutenant of the USS CALIFORNIA (renamed USS SAN DIEGO), and later as her gunnery officer until May 1914.

In the rank of Lieutenant, he assumed command of the USS PAUL JONES on May 20, 1914, and soon thereafter, additional duty in command of First Destroyer Division, Pacific Fleet. In that command he made a reconnaissance cruise to Alaska and the Aleutian Islands for the conduct of which he received a special Letter of Commendation from the Secretary of the Navy. In December 1915 he was detached to duty in the Navy Department, Washington, D.C., where he served until June 1918 in the Fire Control and Electrical Division of the Bureau of Steam Engineering. From June to August 1918, during the first year of World War I he had duty in the USS PENNSYLVANIA while checking the newly installed fire control and interior communications installations of the Atlantic Fleet.

Transferred to duty with Destroyer Force, based on Queenstown Ireland, Vice Admiral Sharp was assigned for one month to the USS SHAW. He assumed command of the USS DOWNES in September 1918, and for services in that command, which extended to April 1919, he received Letter of Commendation from the Secretary of the Navy, as follows:

"For meritorious service in command of the USS DOWNES from September 22, 1918 until the end of the submarine campaign."

Returning to the United States in May 1919, Vice Admiral Sharp fitted out the USS BAILEY, and commanded that destroyer from her commissioning, June 27, 1919, until December of that year, after which he fitted out the USS JOHN D EDWARDS, and commanded that destroyer from her commissioning, April 6, 1920, until October 1921 while operating in the Mediterranean, Black Sea and in Asiatic waters.

Vice Admiral Sharp returned to Annapolis, Maryland, in November 1921 with duty as executive officer, and later as Head of the Postgraduate School. Detached in June 1923 he reported for instruction at the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island. After completing the senior course in May 1924 he assisted in fitting out the USS MARBLEHEAD, joining the cruiser as executive officer when she was commissioned, September 8, 1924, serving in that duty during cruises to the Mediterranean and to Australia with the Fleet in 1925. Detached from the MARBLEHEAD in July 1926, he served the following three years in the Navy Yard Division, Navy Department, Washington, D.C. Returning to sea, Vice Admiral Sharp assumed command in September 1929 of Division 2, Mine Squadron 2, Fleet Base Force, U.S. Fleet, with additional duty in command of the USS LUDLOW. In January 1930, he was relieved of command of the LUDLOW, and assumed command of the USS GAMBLE. In November of that year he was transferred to duty as Commander, Division 1, Mine Squadron 1, with additional duty in command of the GAMBLE.

Vice Admiral Sharp served on the Naval Reserve Inspection Board, Bureau of Navigation, Navy Department, Washington, D.C., from May 1931 until October 1933 when he assumed command of the USS CONCORD. Detached from that command in April 1935, he returned to the Bureau of Navigation, and later served as Director of Officer Personnel from January 1937, until January 1938. Returning to sea he commanded the USS IDAHO from February 1938 until August 1939. He then served as Director, Naval Districts Division, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Department, Washington, D.C., from September 1939 until November 1941 when he assumed command of Battleship Division 5. In April 1942, he was

designated Commander, Battleships, Atlantic Fleet, with additional duty in command of Battleship Division 5. On August 22, 1942, in the rank of Vice Admiral he assumed command of Service Force, Atlantic Fleet. For his services in those commands, which extended to October 1944, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal with the following citation:

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

"For exceptionally meritorious service to the Government of the United States in a duty of great responsibility as Commander Battleship Division Five, Commander Battleships, Atlantic Fleet, as an Atlantic Fleet Major Task Force Commander and as Commander Service Force, Atlantic Fleet, during the period from November 1941, to October 1944. A brilliant administrator and tactician, Vice Admiral Sharp discharged the multiple responsibilities of his command with splendid success, consistently maintaining his forces in a high state of combat efficiency. Confronted, as Commander Service Force, with a task of great magnitude in supplying and supporting the widespread operations of the Atlantic Fleet, Vice Admiral Sharp brought to this duty a knowledge and resourcefulness based on wide experience. Handling these complex problems with marked ability he also furnished effective logistic support for Naval Forces afloat in the Mediterranean and the Eastern Atlantic and for outlying bases in the Atlantic and European Theaters. His forceful, inspiring leadership and distinguished service during this period have been vital contributing factors in the successful operations of the Atlantic Fleet."

Following detachment from command of the Atlantic Fleet, Service Force October 11, 1944, at his own request, in order to serve as Commander, Minecraft Pacific Fleet, Vice Admiral Sharp reverted to his permanent rank of Rear Admiral. For his services in that command he was awarded a Gold Star in lieu of a second Distinguished Service Medal with the following citation:

GOLD STAR in lieu of a Second Distinguished Service Medal:

"For exceptionally meritorious service to the Government of the United States in a duty of great responsibility as Commander Minecraft, Pacific Fleet, from October 14, 1944, to September 2, 1945. Conducting this extremely hazardous and vital mission in support of the Philippine Islands and

Ryukyus Campaigns and the assault on Iwo Jima, Rear Admiral Sharp directed the minecraft under his command with marked efficiency as evidenced by the small number of United States vessels mined during these offensive operations. In addition, personnel of his command served with the 20th Air Force and Fleet Air Wing One as technical representatives for the program to effect the aerial mining of the waters of Japan, the Bonins and Southern Korea as a feature of the blockade of the Empire. His outstanding professional ability, forceful leadership and inspiring devotion to duty throughout the final months of intensified hostilities were contributing factors in the defeat of the Japanese and reflect the highest credit upon Rear Admiral Sharp and the United States Naval Service."

In September 1945 he was ordered to duty in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Department, and in February 1946, was assigned duty as Secretary of the Navy Board to revise Navy regulations, later designated Senior Member of the ten-man board preparing the new edition of Navy Regulations. He was placed on the Retired List of the Navy in the rank of Vice Admiral on September 1, 1946, and relieved of active duty.

In addition to the Distinguished Service Medal with Gold Star, Vice Admiral Sharp has the Cuban Pacification Medal (USS MINNEAPOLIS) the Mexican Service Medal (USS CALIFORNIA), the Victory Medal, Destroyer Clasp (USS DOWNES), and is entitled to the American Defense Service Medal, Fleet Clasp, (USS TEXAS), the Asiatic-Pacific Area Campaign Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal. He also has the Order of St. Stanislaus, Third Class, surmounted by swords and bow, presented by the Government of Russia.

His official address and that of his wife, the former Miss Cornelia Delafield Janin of Washington, D.C., is Henson's Landing, Welcome, Charles County, Maryland.

9 December 1949

Prepared--31 October 1944

NOV 3 1944

Pers 332--rva

Signed _____

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL to

VICE ADMIRAL ALEXANDER SHARP, UNITED STATES NAVY

MAR 14 1946

for service as set forth in the following

NO OBJECTION TO INDUCTION FOR NAVAL SECURITY REGISTRATION
OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION, U. S. NAVY
Security Review Section

CITATION:

"For exceptionally meritorious service to the Government of the United States in a duty of great responsibility as Commander Battleship Division Five, Commander Battleships, Atlantic Fleet, as an Atlantic Fleet Major Task Force Commander and as Commander Service Force, Atlantic Fleet, during the period from November 1941, to October 1944. A brilliant administrator and tactician, Vice Admiral Sharp discharged the multiple responsibilities of his command with splendid success, consistently maintaining his forces in a high state of combat efficiency. Confronted, as Commander Service Force, with a task of great magnitude in supplying and supporting the widespread operations of the Atlantic Fleet, Vice Admiral Sharp brought to this duty a knowledge and resourcefulness based on wide experience. Handling these complex problems with marked ability, he also furnished effective logistic support for Naval Forces afloat in the Mediterranean and the Eastern Atlantic and for outlying bases in the Atlantic and European Theaters. His forceful, inspiring leadership and distinguished service during this period have been vital contributing factors in the successful operations of the Atlantic Fleet."

STAT

OK
WMA

adv

For the President,

JAMES FORRESTAL

Secretary of the Navy

P.R. 11-25-44

FP/E

FILE COPY

Copy to:
Pers 332
Pers 13
Pers 182
Public Relations, Navy Dept
Secretary's Files

Born: 15 August 1895
Washington, D. C.
H. Add: "Welcome," Maryland
MOK: Mrs. Cornelia D. J. Sharp (Wife)
Welcome, Maryland
Ces. Status: Active (542)

Ref: Cominch end to Cinclant ltr
Ser 3698 of 20 Oct 1944

Hansen's Sandling

1004

Prepared--18 October 1945

Pers 328--rwa

Signed _____

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the GOLD STAR in lieu of the Second Distinguished Service Medal to

REAR ADMIRAL ALEXANDER SHARP, UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For exceptionally meritorious service to the Government of the United States in a duty of great responsibility as Commander Minecraft, Pacific Fleet, from October 14, 1944, to September 2, 1945. Conducting this extremely hazardous and vital mission in support of the Philippine Islands and Ryukyus Campaigns and the assault on Iwo Jima, Rear Admiral Sharp directed the minecraft under his command with marked efficiency as evidenced by the small number of United States vessels mined during these offensive operations. In addition, personnel of his command served with the 20th Air Force and Fleet Air Wing ONE as technical representatives for the program to effect the aerial mining of the waters of Japan, the Bonins and Southern Korea as a feature of the blockade of the Empire. His outstanding professional ability, forceful leadership and inspiring devotion to duty throughout the final months of intensified hostilities were contributing factors in the defeat of the Japanese and reflect the highest credit upon Rear Admiral Sharp and the United States Naval Service."

Command

Copy to
Pers 328
Public Relations

For the President,

Ref: BdAwdsMbg of 27 Sep 1945
End on CinCPac ltr Ser 9045 of
8 Sep 1945
SPECIAL

James Forrestal

Secretary of the Navy

FILE COPY

B.R. 11-9-45

In reply address not the signer of this letter, but Bureau of Naval Personnel, Navy Department, Washington 25, D. C.

Refer to No.

Pers-3270-rmf
5492

NAVY DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



file

13 May 46

REAR ADMIRAL ALEXANDER SHARP, U. S. NAVY
TRANSCRIPT RECORD SERVICE OF

13 Aug 1885 Born in Washington, D. C.
10 May 1902 Naval Cadet (at large).
1 Jul 02 Title changed to Midshipman.
13 Feb 08 Ensign.
13 Feb 11 Lieut. (jg).
16 Jan 13 Lieut.
31 Aug 17 Lieut. Comdr. (T).
20 Nov 17 Lieut. Comdr.
1 Jul 18 Comdr. (T).
31 Dec 21 Comdr.
1 Jul 31 Captain.
1 Jul 40 Rear Admiral.
22 Aug 42 Designated Commander Service Force,
Atlantic Force with rank of Vice Admiral,
until detached from duty.
30 May 42 Entered upper half of list of Rear Admirals.
Service continuous to date.

<u>Ships and Stations</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
USS MINNEAPOLIS	1 Mar 06	17 Nov 06
USS CONNECTICUT	19 Nov 06	14 May 11
NYd, Washington, D. C.	15 May 11	1 Jul 13
USS CALIFORNIA	15 Jul 13	19 May 14
Command USS PAUL JONES	20 May 14	14 Dec 15
Bureau of Steam Engineering, Navy Dept.	27 Dec 15	22 Jun 18
Addi. duty in charge of the fire and ship control instrument laboratory, NYd, Wash., D. C.	28 Nov 17	-
USS PENNSYLVANIA	24 Jun 18	27 Jul 18
USS SHAW	13 Aug 18	22 Sep 18
Command USS DOWNES	22 Sep 18	30 Apr 19
cfo USS BAILEY	1 May 19	-
Command USS BAILEY	27 Jun 19	16 Dec 19
cfo USS JOHN D. EDWARDS	5 Jan 20	-
Command USS JOHN D. EDWARDS	6 Apr 20	7 Oct 21
Cavite, P.I. (tempo. duty)	8 Oct 21	14 Oct 21
Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland	21 Nov 21	16 Jun 23
Naval War College (instrn.)	20 Jun 23	29 May 24
cfo USS MARBLEHEAD	16 Jun 24	-
USS MARBLEHEAD (Executive Officer)	8 Sep 24	15 Jul 26
NYd Division, Navy Dept.	2 Aug 26	18 Aug 29
Commander, Division Two, Mine Squadron Two, Fleet Base Force; addi. duty commanding		
USS LUDLOW	4 Sep 29	24 Nov 30
Addi. duty Command First Division, Pacific Torpedo Flotilla	12 Jul 15	-

13 May 46

<u>Ships and Stations</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Relieved addi. duty Command USS LUDLOW to addi. duty commanding USS GAMBLE	-	-
Commander, Division One, Mine Squadron One, U. S. Fleet; addi. duty Commanding USS GAMBLE	24 Nov 30	5 Apr 31
Bureau of Navigation	15 May 31	20 Oct 33
Commanding USS CONCORD	28 Oct 33	6 Apr 35
Bureau of Navigation	11 Apr 35	23 Nov 36
Fitzsimons General Hospital, Denver, Colorado (treatment)	25 Nov 36	25 Jan 37
Director of Officer Personnel, Navy Dept.	26 Jan 37	29 Jan 38
Commanding USS IDAHO	10 Feb 38	12 Aug 39
Army War College, Fort Humphreys, Wash., D.C. (instrn.)	17 Aug 39	6 Sep 39
Office of CNO, Navy Dept.	6 Sep 39	29 Nov 41
Commander, Battleship Division Five	30 Nov 41	-
Commander, Battleships, Atlantic Fleet; addi. duty Commander, Battleship Division Five	23 Apr 42	22 Aug 42
* Commander Service Force, Atlantic Fleet	22 Aug 42	11 Oct 44
Headquarters, Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Navy, Washington, D. C. (tempo. duty)	-	12 Sep 45
Headquarters, Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet, Wash., D. C.	12 Sep 45	18 Feb 46
Office of Secretary of Navy, Senior Member of the Board of Revise U. S. Navy Regulations, Navy Dept.	18 Feb 46	-
Addi. duty Army War College	6 Dec 26	-
Completed Naval War College senior course.		
Completed Naval War College correspondence course in strategy and tactics.		
* Commander, Minecraft, Pacific Fleet	14 Oct 44	2 Sep 45

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL:

For exceptionally meritorious service to the Government of the United States in a duty of great responsibility as Commander Battleship Division Five, Commander Battleships, Atlantic Fleet, as an Atlantic Fleet Major Task Force Commander and as Commander Service Force, Atlantic Fleet, during the period from November 1941, to October 1944. A brilliant administrator and tactician, Vice Admiral Sharp discharged the multiple responsibilities of his command with splendid success, consistently maintaining his forces in a high state of combat efficiency. Confronted, as Commander Service Force, with a task of great magnitude in supplying and supporting the widespread operations of the Atlantic Fleet, Vice Admiral Sharp brought to this duty a knowledge and resourcefulness based on wide experience. Handling these complex problems with marked ability, he also furnished effective logistic support for Naval Forces afloat in the Mediterranean and the Eastern Atlantic and for outlying bases in the Atlantic and European Theaters. His forceful, inspiring leadership and distinguished service during this period have been vital contributing factors in the successful operations of the Atlantic Fleet

Pers-3270-rmf
5492

13 May 48

GOLD STAR in lieu of SECOND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL:

For exceptionally meritorious service to the Government of the United States in a duty of great responsibility as Commander Minecraft, Pacific Fleet, from October 14, 1944 to September 2, 1945. Conducting this extremely hazardous and vital mission in support of the Philippine Islands and Ryukyus Campaigns and the assault on Iwo Jima, Rear Admiral Sharp directed the minecraft under his command with marked efficiency as evidenced by the small number of United States vessels mined during these offensive operations, in addition, personnel of his command served with the 20th Air Force and Fleet Air Wing ONE as technical representatives for the program to effect the aerial mining of the waters of Japan, the Bonins and Southern Korea as a feature of the blockade of the Empire. His outstanding professional ability, forceful leadership and inspiring devotion to duty throughout the final months of intensified hostilities were contributing factors in the defeat of the Japanese and reflect the highest credit upon Rear Admiral Sharp and the United States Naval Service.

SPECIAL LETTER OF COMMENDATION by SecNav World War I

Cuban Pacification Medal - USS MINNEAPOLIS
Mexican Service Medal - USS CALIFORNIA
Victory Medal (Destroyer Clasp) USS DOWNES
American Defense Service Medal (Fleet Clasp) Cdr. Battle Div. 5
Asiatic-Pacific Area Campaign Medal
American Area Campaign Medal
World War II Victory Medal

The Order of St. Stanislaw III Class, surmounted by swords and bow awarded by the Government of Russia.

Usual Residence: Welcome, Maryland

Next of Kin: (Wife) Cornelia D. J. Sharp
Welcome, Maryland
or
1545 - 35th St., N.W.
Washington, D. C.

ADDRESS REPLY TO
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL
AND REFER TO

Pers-3270-pvh
5492

NAVY DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



Present duty C710-3-6-46

5 October 1943

*Present duty
11-16-44*

VICE-ADMIRAL ALEXANDER SHARP, U.S. NAVY
RE: SERVICE OF

1885	Aug	13	Born in Washington, D. C.
1902	May	10	Appointed Naval Cadet at large
	Jun	1	Title changed to Midshipman
1906	Feb	8	Det. <u>12th inst</u> , home and report. Det 12 Feb; home 13 Feb.
	Feb	17	To the "MINNEAPOLIS" 1 March. Rep 1 Mar.
	Oct	26	Det. when out comm. and to the CONNECTICUT. Det 17 Nov; Rep 19 Nov. Duty as Asst. to Sr. Engr. Offr. 10-31-10.
1908	Mar	18	Commissioned Ensign, to rank from <u>13 February</u> .
	Apr	2	Executed oath of office.
1911	Jun	10	Commissioned Lieutenant (jg), to rank from 13 February 1911.
	Apr	26	Det. "CONNECTICUT" 15 May and to the Navy Yard, Washington, D. C. Det 14 May; Rep 15 May.
1913	Mar	7	Commissioned, regular Lieutenant, to rank from <u>16 January 1913</u> .
	Jun	21	Det. Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., 1 July, and to the "CALIFORNIA". Det and Rep 15 July.
1914	May	18	Det. "CALIFORNIA" and to command the "PAUL JONES". Det 19 May; Rep 20 May
1915	Dec	9	Det. and to the Bureau of Steam Engineering, Navy Department, Washington, D. C. Det 14 Dec; Rep 27 Dec.
1917	Oct	3	Temporarily appointed a Lieutenant Commander, to rank from 31 August 1917.
	Oct	10	Accepted temporary appointment and executed Oath of Office this date.
1918	Apr	16	Commissioned, regular Lieutenant Commander, to rank from <u>20 November 1917</u> .
1918	Jun	20	Det. (Bureau of Steam Engineering) and to temporary duty on the "PENNSYLVANIA". Upon completion to duty with the Destroyer Force. Det 22 Jun; Rep 24 Jun. Completed 27 Jul; Rep 13 Aug. Assigned to the "SHAW".

*Vice Admiral Aug 22, 1942
Reverted to Rear Admiral
October 15, 1944 - Date given
by off. Promotions - 3-6-46 - 13mxc -*

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5492

5 October 1943

1918 Sep 6 Temporarily appointed Commander, to rank from 1 July 1918.

Oct 14 Accepted appointment and executed Oath of Office.

1919 Sep 21 Det. "SHAW" to command the "DOWNES". Det and Rep 22 Sep.

Apr 23 Det "DOWNES" and to Squantum, Massachusetts, duty connection fitting out the "BAILEY", and in command when commissioned. Det 30 Apr; Rep 1 May. I.C. 27 Jun.

Dec 24 Det. "'BAILEY" . On 30 Jan to Cramp and Sons Co., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for duty in connection with fitting out the "JOHN D. EDWARDS" and in command, when commissioned. Det. 16 Dec 1919; Rep 5 Jan 1920. I.C. 6 Apr 1920.

1921 Aug 28 Det. "JOHN D. EDWARDS and to temporary duty Cavite, P.I., awaiting trans. to U.S.; thence to home and wait orders. Det 7 Oct; Rep 8 Oct. Det 14 Oct; Arrive San Francisco 10 Nov; home 14 Nov.

Nov 12 To duty Receiving Ship, San Francisco, California. Det prior arrive "HENDERSON" at Mare Island, California. (Receiving Ship, San Francisco) and to the "HENDERSON" for duty. Upon arrival, Det, and to Hampton Roads, Virginia (HENDERSON) and to home and wait orders. (Authorized to proceed home via commercial trans. at own expense) Above orders not performed as proceed by cross continent.

Nov 16 To Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland, 21 Nov, for duty. Rep 21 Nov.

1922 Jan 25 Commissioned, regular Commander, to rank from 31 December 1921. (No O & A required).

1923 Jun 2 Det. (Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland) and to Naval War College, Newport, R. I. for duty under instruction, 2 July. Det 16 Jun; Rep 20 Jun.

1924 Apr 18 Det. upon completion instruction (Naval War College, Newport, R.I.) and to William Cramp & Sons Co., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, connection fitting out "MARBLEHEAD" and as Executive Officer when commissioned. Det 29 May; Rep 16 Jun. I.C. 8 Sep 1924.

1926 Jul 15 Det. "MARBLEHEAD" 15 July.

1926 May 24 Navy Yard Division, Navy Department, Washington, D. C. Rep 2 Aug 1926; Det 18 Aug 1929.

1929 Jun 28 Commander, Division Two, Mine Squadron Two, Fleet Base Force; additional duty commanding USS LUDLOW. Rep 4 Sep 1929; Det 24 Nov 1930

Pers-3270-pvh
5492

5 October 1943

1930 Jan 17 Relieved additional duty Command USS LUDLOW to additional duty commanding USS GAMBIE.
1930 Oct 21 Commander, Division One, Mine Squadron One, U.S. Fleet; additional duty Commanding USS GAMBIE. Rep 24 Nov 1930; Det 5 Apr 1931.
1931 Feb 14 Bureau of Navigation, Navy Department, Washington, D. C. Rep 15 May 1931; Det 20 Oct 1933.
1931 Aug 7 Commissioned, ad interim Captain, to rank from 1 July 1931.
1932 Jan 5 Commissioned, regular Captain, to rank from 1 July 1931.
1933 Sep 28 Commanding USS CONCORD. Rep 28 Oct 1933; Det 6 Apr 1935.
1935 Mar 15 Bureau of Navigation, Navy Department, Washington, D. C. Rep 11 Apr 1935; Det 23 Nov 1936.
1936 Nov 11 Fitzsimons General Hospital, Denver, Colorado, (treatment). Rep 25 Nov 1936; Det 25 Jan 1937.
1937 Jan 26 Director of Officer Personnel, Navy Department, Washington, D. C. Rep 26 Jan 1937; Det 29 Jan 1938.
1938 Jan 19 Commanding USS IDAHO. Rep 10 Feb 1938; Det 12 Aug 1939.
1939 Jun 22 Army War College, Fort Humphreys, Washington, D. C. Rep 17 Aug 1939; Det 6 Sep 1939,
1939 Sep 6 Office of Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Department, Washington, D. C. Rep 6 Sep 1939; Det 29 Nov 1941.
1940 Jul 11 Commissioned, regular Rear Admiral, to rank from 1 July 1940.
1941 Nov 28 Commander, Battleship Division Five. Rep 30 Nov 1941.
1942 Apr 23 Commander, Battleships, Atlantic Fleet; additional duty Commander, Battleship Division Five. Rep 23 April; Det 22 Aug 1942.
1942 Jul 13 Commander Service Force, Atlantic Fleet. Rep 22 Aug 1942. *was 13 Oct 44*
1942 Jul 20 Designated Commander Service Force, Atlantic Force, with rank of Vice Admiral, effective on date of assuming command.
1942 Oct 21 Entered upper half of list of Rear Admirals 30 May 1942, instead of 30 June 1942.

and 5 Oct 44 - To CincPac for duty as, Commander, Minecraft, Pacific Fleet. (Rep to CincPac 14 Oct 44)

25 Aug 45 - Directed when relieved, detached as, Cmdr, Minecraft, Pacific Fleet, report to Hdqrs, COMINCPAC for duty

Sept 1945 ordered to Office CNO
Feb, 1946, assigned duty as Secretary of Navy Board
to revise Navy regulations x
LBUPers 9-15-45)
Assigning 3-11-46
CmK

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5492

5 October 1943

Completed Naval War College senior course.
Completed Naval War College correspondence course in strategy
and tactics.

Cuban Pacification Medal - USS MINNEAPOLIS - 1 March 1906 to
17 November 1906.

Mexican Service Medal - USS CALIFORNIA - 15 July 1913 to 18
May 1914.

Victory Medal (Destroyer Clasp) - USS DOWNES 21 September 1918
to 23 April 1919 and the USS SHAW 13 August 1918 to
21 September 1918.

American Defense Service Medal (Fleet Clasp) - USS TEXAS.

Special Letter of Commendation - World War 1 by Navy Department -
"He rendered meritorious service in command of the
USS DOWNES from 22 September 1918, until the end
of the submarine campaign"

Order of St. Stanislas, 111 Class, surmounted by swords and bow, by
the Government of Russia - 28 December 1920.

D. S. M.

Address - HENSON'S LANDING, WELCOMC, MARYLAND
NOK - Wife, CORNELIA DELAFIELD JAHIN SHARP, ~~same~~ address

VICE ADMIRAL ALEXANDER SHARP, JR., U.S. NAVY, RETIRED

Vice Admiral Sharp, born in Washington, D.C., August 13, 1885 is the son of the late Captain Alexander Sharp, USN, and Mrs. Josephine Hand Sharp. He attended schools in the United States, Japan, Germany, and Switzerland. He studied at Werntz' Preparatory School, Annapolis, Maryland, immediately prior to his appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy in 1902 by the late President Theodore Roosevelt. While a Midshipman he was a member of the fencing team which won the Intercollegiate Fencing Meet and received the coveted "Iron Man" fencing trophy.

Graduated in February 1906, he served the two years at sea then required by law before being commissioned Ensign on February 13, 1908. His subsequent promotions were as follows: Lieutenant (jg), February 13, 1911; Lieutenant, January 16, 1913; Lieutenant Commander, November 20, 1917; Commander, December 31, 1921; Captain, July 1, 1931; Rear Admiral, July 1, 1940; and Vice Admiral (temporary), on August 22, 1942, while serving as Commander, Service Force, Atlantic Fleet. He reverted to permanent rank of Rear Admiral on October 11, 1944, and was promoted to the rank of Vice Admiral on the date of his retirement, September 1, 1946.

After graduation from the Naval Academy in 1906, Vice Admiral Sharp joined the USS MINNEAPOLIS, which participated in the Cuban Pacification Expedition that year. Detached in November 1906, when she was decommissioned, he joined the USS CONNECTICUT, and served as watch and division officer in that battleship when she made the cruise around the World with the Battle Fleet in 1907-1909. Detached in May 1911, he had duty until July 1913 at the Naval Gun Factory, Navy Yard, Washington, D.C. Thereafter he again had sea duty as first lieutenant of the USS CALIFORNIA (renamed USS SAN DIEGO), and later as her gunnery officer until May 1914.

In the rank of Lieutenant, he assumed command of the USS PAUL JONES on May 20, 1914, and soon thereafter, additional duty in command of First Destroyer Division, Pacific Fleet. In that command he made a reconnaissance cruise to Alaska and the Aleutian Islands for the conduct of which he received a special Letter of Commendation from the Secretary of the Navy. In December 1915 he was detached to duty in the Navy Department, Washington, D.C., where he served until June 1918 in the Fire Control and Electrical Division of the Bureau of Steam Engineering. From June to August 1918, during the first year of World War I he had duty in the USS PENNSYLVANIA while checking the newly installed fire control and interior communications installations of the Atlantic Fleet.

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"For meritorious service in command of the USS DOWNES from September 22, 1918 until the end of the submarine campaign."

Returning to the United States in May 1919, Vice Admiral Sharp fitted out the USS BAILEY, and commanded that destroyer from her commissioning, June 27, 1919, until December of that year, after which he fitted out the USS JOHN D EDWARDS, and commanded that destroyer from her commissioning, April 6, 1920, until October 1921 while operating in the Mediterranean, Black Sea and in Asiatic waters.

Vice Admiral Sharp returned to Annapolis, Maryland, in November 1921 with duty as executive officer, and later as Head of the Postgraduate School. Detached in June 1923 he reported for instruction at the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island. After completing the senior course in May 1924 he assisted in fitting out the USS MARBLEHEAD, joining the cruiser as executive officer when she was commissioned, September 8, 1924, serving in that duty during cruises to the Mediterranean and to Australia with the Fleet in 1925. Detached from the MARBLEHEAD in July 1926, he served the following three years in the Navy Yard Division, Navy Department, Washington, D.C. Returning to sea, Vice Admiral Sharp assumed command in September 1929 of Division 2, Mine Squadron 2, Fleet Base Force, U.S. Fleet, with additional duty in command of the USS LUDLOW. In January 1930, he was relieved of command of the LUDLOW, and assumed command of the USS GAMBLE. In November of that year he was transferred to duty as Commander, Division 1, Mine Squadron 1, with additional duty in command of the GAMBLE.

Vice Admiral Sharp served on the Naval Reserve Inspection Board, Bureau of Navigation, Navy Department, Washington, D.C., from May 1931 until October 1933 when he assumed command of the USS CONCORD. Detached from that command in April 1935, he returned to the Bureau of Navigation, and later served as Director of Officer Personnel from January 1937, until January 1938. Returning to sea he commanded the USS IDAHO from February 1938 until August 1939. He then served as Director, Naval Districts Division, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Department, Washington, D.C., from September 1939 until November 1941 when he assumed command of Battleship Division 5. In April 1942, he was

designated Commander, Battleships, Atlantic Fleet, with additional duty in command of Battleship Division 5. On August 22, 1942, in the rank of Vice Admiral he assumed command of Service Force, Atlantic Fleet. For his services in those commands, which extended to October 1944, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal with the following citation:

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

"For exceptionally meritorious service to the Government of the United States in a duty of great responsibility as Commander Battleship Division Five, Commander Battleships, Atlantic Fleet, as an Atlantic Fleet Major Task Force Commander and as Commander Service Force, Atlantic Fleet, during the period from November 1941, to October 1944. A brilliant administrator and tactician, Vice Admiral Sharp discharged the multiple responsibilities of his command with splendid success, consistently maintaining his forces in a high state of combat efficiency. Confronted, as Commander Service Force, with a task of great magnitude in supplying and supporting the widespread operations of the Atlantic Fleet, Vice Admiral Sharp brought to this duty a knowledge and resourcefulness based on wide experience. Handling these complex problems with marked ability he also furnished effective logistic support for Naval Forces afloat in the Mediterranean and the Eastern Atlantic and for outlying bases in the Atlantic and European Theaters. His forceful, inspiring leadership and distinguished service during this period have been vital contributing factors in the successful operations of the Atlantic Fleet."

Following detachment from command of the Atlantic Fleet, Service Force October 11, 1944, at his own request, in order to serve as Commander, Minecraft Pacific Fleet, Vice Admiral Sharp reverted to his permanent rank of Rear Admiral. For his services in that command he was awarded a Gold Star in lieu of a second Distinguished Service Medal with the following citation:

GOLD STAR in lieu of a Second Distinguished Service Medal:

"For exceptionally meritorious service to the Government of the United States in a duty of great responsibility as Commander Minecraft, Pacific Fleet, from October 14, 1944; to September 2, 1945. Conducting this extremely hazardous and vital mission in support of the Philippine Islands and

Ryukyus Campaigns and the assault on Iwo Jima, Rear Admiral Sharp directed the minecraft under his command with marked efficiency as evidenced by the small number of United States vessels mined during these offensive operations. In addition, personnel of his command served with the 20th Air Force and Fleet Air Wing One as technical representatives for the program to effect the aerial mining of the waters of Japan, the Bonins and Southern Korea as a feature of the blockade of the Empire. His outstanding professional ability, forceful leadership and inspiring devotion to duty throughout the final months of intensified hostilities were contributing factors in the defeat of the Japanese and reflect the highest credit upon Rear Admiral Sharp and the United States Naval Service."

In September 1945 he was ordered to duty in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Department, and in February 1946, was assigned duty as Secretary of the Navy Board to revise Navy regulations, later designated Senior Member of the ten-man board preparing the new edition of Navy Regulations. He was placed on the Retired List of the Navy in the rank of Vice Admiral on September 1, 1946, and relieved of active duty.

In addition to the Distinguished Service Medal with Gold Star, Vice Admiral Sharp has the Cuban Pacification Medal (USS MINNEAPOLIS) the Mexican Service Medal (USS CALIFORNIA), the Victory Medal, Destroyer Clasp (USS DOWNES), and is entitled to the American Defense Service Medal, Fleet Clasp, (USS TEXAS), the Asiatic-Pacific Area Campaign Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal. He also has the Order of St. Stanislaus, Third Class, surmounted by swords and bow, presented by the Government of Russia.

His official address and that of his wife, the former Miss Cornelia Delafield Janin of Washington, D.C., is Henson's Landing, Welcome, Charles County, Maryland.

9 December 1949

NAME: SHARP, ALEXANDER

VICE ADMIRAL U S N RETIRED

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD DATE:

21 May 1947

PAGE:

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NOMINATED:

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CONFIRMED:

"Vice Admiral Alexander Sharp, U. S. Navy reftired, to

DUTY:

pe placed on the retired list with the rank of vice admiral."

(listed in congressional record under CONFIRMATIONS....)

NAVY DEPARTMENT

IMMEDIATE RELEASE
PRESS AND RADIO

MARCH 6, 1946

TEN-MAN BOARD PREPARING NEW EDITION NAVY REGULATIONS

Navy Regulations, the by-laws of the Naval Establishment, are being revised to reflect war experiences and recent changes in administration and organization of the Navy.

The revisions will be incorporated in a new edition of Navy Regulations being formulated by a 10-man board headed by Rear Admiral Alexander Sharp, U.S.N. The last general revision was made in 1920, although 26 printed changes have been made since that time.

New regulations dealing with amphibious operations, aircraft commands, sea frontiers and other recent developments of warfare will be included in the 1946 edition. The work of rewriting, reviewing and re-assembling the large volume of regulations that make up the Navy "Bible" will require from five to six months.

In addition to Rear Admiral Sharp, president, the new Navy Regulations Board is composed of Captain John D. Kelsey, U.S.N.; Captain Thomas B. Dugan, U.S.N.; Captain Willard J. Suits, U.S.N.; Captain George J. Dufek, U.S.N.; Captain Cyrus D. Bishop, Supply Corps, U.S.N.; Captain William E. Eaton, Medical Corps, U.S.N., Retired; Captain Robert H. Meade, Civil Engineer Corps, U.S.N.; Commander George A. Rosso, Chaplain Corps, U.S.N., and Lieutenant Colonel John Malcolm Davis, U.S.M.C.

Captain Francis W. Laurent, U.S.N., Retired, is acting as counsel to the board, and Lieutenant Richard H. Maurer, U.S.N.R., is serving as recorder.

The board tentatively has approved changes in the size and binder of the new edition. It proposes to increase the paper size to the standard 8-by-10-1/2 inches, and to use a thinner binder.

NAVY DEPARTMENT

IMMEDIATE RELEASE
PRESS AND RADIO

NOVEMBER 25, 1944

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL IS AWARDED TO
REAR ADMIRAL ALEXANDER SHARP, USN

Rear Admiral Alexander Sharp, U.S. Navy, of "Welcome," Henson's Landing, Maryland, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for duty as Commander, Battleships, Atlantic Fleet, as an Atlantic Fleet Major Task Force and as Commander Service Force, Atlantic Fleet. Rear Admiral Sharp held the rank of Vice Admiral during the period for which he was cited.

Text of the citation follows:

"For exceptionally meritorious service to the Government of the United States in a duty of great responsibility as Commander of a Battleship Division, Commander Battleships, Atlantic Fleet, as an Atlantic Fleet Major Task Force Commander and as Commander Service Force, Atlantic Fleet, during the period from November 1941, to October 1944. A brilliant administrator and tactician, Vice Admiral Sharp discharged the multiple responsibilities of his command with splendid success, consistently maintaining his forces in a high state of combat efficiency. Confronted, as Commander Service Force, with a task of great magnitude in supplying and supporting the widespread operations of the Atlantic Fleet, Vice Admiral Sharp brought to this duty a knowledge and resourcefulness based on wide experience. Handling these complex problems with marked ability, he also furnished effective logistic support for Naval Forces afloat in the Mediterranean and the Eastern Atlantic and for outlying bases in the Atlantic and European Theaters. His forceful, inspiring leadership and distinguished service during this period have been vital contributing factors in the successful operations of the Atlantic Fleet."

TWO OFFICERS RECEIVE AWARDS FROM FLEET ADMIRAL NIMITZ

Fleet Admiral C.W. Nimitz, USN, Commander in Chief, United States Pacific Fleet and Pacific Ocean Areas has presented awards to two Naval officers at Pacific Fleet Headquarters.

Rear Admiral Alexander Sharp, Jr., USN, Commander Minescraft, Pacific, received the Distinguished Service Medal, awarded him in November, 1944 by the President of the United States and announced in Navy Department Press Release of November 25, 1944. The award was for "exceptionally meritorious service to the Government of the United States in a duty of great responsibility as Commander Battleships, Atlantic Fleet, as an Atlantic Fleet Major Task Force Commander and as Commander Service Force, Atlantic Fleet, during the period from November 1941 to October 1944."

Rear Admiral Sharp's home address is Welcome, Henson's Landing, Maryland.

Fleet Admiral Nimitz presented the Legion of Merit to Lieutenant Commander George W. Pepper, USNR, for outstanding service as Air Combat Intelligence Officer afloat. Lieutenant Commander Pepper's wife, a son, and two daughters and his mother, Mrs. Franklin Pepper, live at Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Following is the text of Lieutenant Commander Pepper's citation:

"For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service as an Air Combat Intelligence Officer afloat. In the performance of his assigned duties, in the various aircraft carriers, he participated in the capture of Guadalcanal and the Marshall Islands, and in the carrier raids on Marcus, Truk and the Marianas Islands. By his energetic and efficient performance of duty, he contributed materially to the effectiveness of carrier operations in the Pacific. His conduct and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

"C. W. Nimitz
"Fleet Admiral, U.S. Navy"

Lieutenant Commander Pepper was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1932. Before entering the service in February, 1942, he was treasurer of the Scott Paper company at Chester, Pennsylvania. His father, the late Major Franklin Pepper, was killed during the First World War while serving overseas with the United States infantry.

Name **Sharp, Alexander, Jr.**

Rank **Vice Admiral**

Present duty **Commander Service Force, Atlantic Fleet.**

November 11, 1918

Rank **Commander**

Duty **Commanding USS DOWNES, Queenstown, Ireland**

World War Decorations:

Class
**Special Letter of Commendation by Secretary of the
Navy**

Service
**Commanding Officer of the
USS DOWNES, engaged in
patrol and escort duty,
War Zone**

War with Axis Decorations:

Class

Service

Service Medals

**Cuban Pacification Medal, USS MINNEAPOLIS
Mexican Service Medal, USS CALIFORNIA
Victory Medal, Destroyer Clasp, USS DOWNES
American Defense Service Medal, Fleet Clasp
American Area Campaign Medal.**

Birthplace and date **Washington, D. C. August 13, 1885**

Home address **"Welcome"
Hensen's Landing,
Maryland.**