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Welcome to the USS GURKE (DD-783) Reunion Group!

We are pleased to announce that plans are underway for the next reunion of USS GURKE (DD-783) crewmen. Reunions are always memorable events. We have been working with William Phipps on coordinating and advertising the USS GURKE reunion. The next reunion is planned for May 17-20, 2012 in Minneapolis, MN. We have a wonderful package of lodging, tour attractions and meals lined up for you for a great reunion. Your registration material will be sent approximately 90 days prior to the reunion.

Please allow us to introduce ourselves. Our business is to plan and host military reunions. We serve all branches of the service and are working on close to a hundred reunions this year! We are and intend to remain the premier reunion management company in the United States. We've been in business since 1987, thanks to the veterans who served our country and our dedicated office and travel staff. We welcome your inquiries to the Better Business Bureau and invite you to check out our web site. Our company president is a veteran of twenty-three years of active military service. We manage reunions all over the United States and our reputation for planning quality reunions is well known.

We promise that same high standard of quality will be demonstrated at the USS GURKE reunion. However, we need the help of the former crewmembers in making this reunion a success. Any help that you can give us in locating more of the GURKE crew will be greatly appreciated. Even if you only have 30, 40 or even 50 year old names and addresses, at least that gives us somewhere to begin our search. The USS GURKE rosters that have the first and last name and the hometown at the time are the best! The more of the crew we are able to locate, the bigger and better your reunion will be. If you are in touch with any other GURKE crewmembers, please encourage them to get their name and address added to the mailing list as soon as possible. The best way to do this is by email.

You will find enclosed with this letter a questionnaire asking you to answer certain questions about your life both on the USS GURKE, and now. Please take a moment to complete this form and return it to us with as much information as you care to share. This questionnaire can also be filled out on line via our web site (www.mlrsinc.com/questionnaire.htm). The info submitted will be entered into our computers and included on your group's reunion web page on our web site. Your fellow crewmembers will enjoy learning what happened to you after you walked away from the USS GURKE that last time. (Please note, your address and phone number will NOT be posted on the web site. Your email address will only be posted with your permission).

Along with the questionnaire, please send us a current picture and a picture of yourself as you looked while aboard the USS GURKE. These pictures will be included in the 2012 Reunion Memory Book that will be included as part of the registration options available for the 2012 reunion. We promise that all pictures sent to us will be returned to you when the orders are filled after the reunion. We can also accept electronic photos in .jpg or .gif format if you would like to email them to us. Please do not send a photo printed from your home computer unless it is VERY high quality. Reproductions of printer generated pictures lose a lot of quality. We realize that your pictures are priceless and we will take the utmost care in handling them while they are in our care. Please put your name, address, and ship's name on the back of any photos you send. Also, as you are looking for photos, go ahead and pull out your other mementoes from your ship board days - Shellback cards, Christmas Menus, Commissioning Programs, Cruise books, PlankOwner Certificates. All these are great items to *bring with you* to the reunion to share in the hospitality room. We thank you for sharing your memories with those people who will most appreciate it – your shipmates.

Please note, all future material from us concerning this and future GURKE reunions will be posted on the groups web site. You must let us know if you don't have internet access and need to receive your reunion info via US Postal mail! There is a place for you to indicate this on the enclosed questionnaire.

Okay, that's it. Your duties are finished. Now all you need to do is sit back and relax while we handle the details. Your final task is to sign up for the reunion and visit with those old friends that shared your life during your time in the service. Even if for some reason you are unable to attend the reunion, we'd like to have the questionnaire and photos sent to us! Please send your questionnaire and photos to the address above.

Sincerely,

Dina Coffey

USS GURKE Questionnaire

Please note, this info will be posted on your group's web page, except where notated by **

Your Name: _____ **Nickname:** _____
Please check here if you do not have internet access and need to receive your reunion info, newsletters, etc via US Postal mail: _____

Rank/Rate While on board : _____ **Department/Division:** _____

****Mailing Address:** _____

****City:** _____ ****State:** _____ ****Zip:** _____ ****Country:** _____

****Phone Number:** _____ **E-mail Address:** _____
Please check here if we have permission to publish your email address on the reunion web site: _____

Spouse's Name: _____ **Hometown When You Entered the Military:** _____

Were you career Navy? No _____ Yes _____
If yes, Highest rank attained: _____ **When did you retire from Active Duty?:** _____

Years Served on board USS GURKE: From: _____ **To:** _____

Do you attend other military reunions? Yes _____ No _____
If yes, which ones? _____

What was/is your primary civilian occupation?

What are your special interests and hobbies?

What is your favorite GURKE memory?

What is your worst GURKE memory?

Is there one person in particular you would like to see?

How many children do you have? ____ **Grandchildren** ____ **Great Grandchildren** ____

How did you find out about this reunion?

Please list any other ships you served on. We may be organizing a reunion for one of them!

If there is anything special you would like to say to your friends, or if there are any special activities you would like included as part of the reunion, please use the back side of this form, or add another sheet.

**** This info will not be posted on the internet.**