

The Year 1965 – Timeline & Shipmates

(Updated in Jun 2022 to include more ship's movement info from Deck Logs.)

CO: William Zimmerman, CDR; Jul 64 - May 65

XO: Benny (Ricky) Jo Ricardo, LCDR; Jul 64 - Mar 66

New CO: Richard R. Davison, CDR; May 65 - Nov 66

Officers (rank shown is highest while onboard):

Sherrill Beam, LTJG	Bruce Neiner, LTJG
William Brockett, LTJG	Robert Newton, LTJG
John Ervin, LTJG	Thomas Parker, ENS
Richard Gregory, LTJG	John Rabel, LTJG
Christian Gruenther, ENS	Alexander Salley, LT/LCDR
William Hansen, LTJG	Theodore Sadamoto, LTJG
Donald Hoffman LTJG	John Slater LTJG
Keith Johnson, LTJG	Henry Swan, LTJG
Eric Lehto, ENS	Kenneth Taylor LTJG
Gary Mayetani, ENS	Vene Vrooman, LTJG
Patrick McManus, LTJG	Alan Wickert, LT
Ronald Meardy, LT	

1965 USS COLLETT Timeline

Legend:

DBD = "20th Century Day by Day" book.

DL = 1965 Deck Log (can be viewed at catalog.archives.gov)

PD = 1965 Personnel Diary (a USN document) via Frank Olderr.

WD = Webster's Encyclopedic Dictionary.

Events:

++ **Jan 1965** ++ *ref: catalog.archives.gov – 172752649 (Search for this 9-digit number to view Jan DL entries)*

COLLETT is based in Long Beach. Starts month at Long Beach, CA; ends at San Diego, CA.

*Operations during the month: independent & with USS Blue (DD-744), USS Mataco (ATF-86), USS Perkins (DD-877), USS Craig (DD-885), USS Apache (ATF-67), USS Munsee (ATF-107), USS General W A Mann (AP-112), USS Point Defiance (LSD-31), USS Navarro (APA-215), USS Walke (DD-723), USS Tulovana (AO-64). – per DL.

01-04 Jan – At Long Beach. – per Art Wigand in Apr 10.

02 Jan – 00-04 Engineering plant is cold iron. – per DL.

03 Jan – 0800 Lighted fires under No. 1 Boiler. – per DL.

04 Jan – 0823 Underway. 0950 Sighted pleasure craft in distress. 1009 Took family of 4 onboard. 1146 Rendezvous with Los Angeles County lifeguard boat. 1150 The family departed the ship. 1200 Proceeding to Ops areas. – per DL.

04-08 Jan – Underway; EI (Electromagnetic Interference) trials [and gunnery exercises per DL]. – per Art Wigand.

08 Jan – 1324 Moored Berth 19W, Long Beach. – per DL.

09 Jan – *Underway [at 0900 per DL]; Dependents Cruise. – per Art Wigand.

*1356 Moored Pier 19, Long Beach. – per DL.

11 Jan – 0902 Underway. – per DL.

12 Jan – 0945 While practicing on the 5" loading machine, an SA caught his right 4th and 5th fingers in the spade sustaining injury. Diagnosis: fractures pending x-rays. Treatment: Demerol for pain; cold and hot soaks; binnacle list. Disposition: no duty for 24 hours. ASW exercises throughout the day. – per DL.

14 Jan – 1406 Moored Pier 20, Long Beach. – per DL.

15 Jan – *Enroute Seal Beach, CA [at 0806 per DL]. At Seal Beach; Load ammunition. Enroute Long Beach. – per Art Wigand.

*1432 Moored portside Pier 20 W, Long Beach. – per DL.

16 Jan – *Enroute San Diego, CA (at 0906 per DL). – per Art Wigand.

*1655 Moored Pier 5, San Diego. – per DL

19 Jan – 2000 While working on hot water and steam lines, an MM suffered first and second degree burns to his left hand and wrist. Treatment by corpsman aboard USS Estes. Disposition: returned to ship with limited use of left hand. – per DL.

--- 19 Jan – *Unmanned Gemini 2 launched into space.* – per DBD.

23 Jan – 1042 Underway to shift to Buoy 18, San Diego. – per DL.

25 Jan – 0832 Underway for training. 1625 Anchored in San Diego Bay. 1903 Anchor aweigh. – per DL.

26-28 Jan – Underway training. – per Art Wigand.

27 Jan – 1930 While performing duties as a mess cook, an SA received first degree burns on his chest when a hot water hose ruptured and sprayed him. Treatment by corpsman. Disposition: place on sick list. – per DL.

Caution: The 3 sheets of the DL for 27 Jan are filed out of order (3, 1, 2) in the on-line version.

28 Jan – 1810 Moored Pier 1, San Diego. – per DL.

28-31 Jan – At San Diego. – per Art Wigand.

++ **Feb 1965** ++ ref: catalog.archives.gov – 172752721 (*Search for this 9-digit number to view Feb DL entries*)

COLLETT is based in Long Beach. Starts month at San Diego; ends at San Diego.

*Operations during the month: independent & with USS Blue (DD-744), USS Arnold J Isbell (DD-869), USS Walke (DD-723), USS Diachenko (APD-123), USS Mataco (ATF-86), USS Mahan (DLG-11), USS King (DLG-10), USS Caliente (AO-53), USS Cogswell (DD-651), USS Targeteer (YV-3) [a drone aircraft catapult control ship]; USS Hornet (CVS-12), USS Koka (ATF-185), USS Ashtabula (AO-51), HHMS Dhoris (M-246) [unk to google.com in Jun 2022]. – per DL.

01 Feb – At San Diego. Underway for underway training. – per Art Wigand in Apr 10.

01-03 Feb – At San Diego; Repairs. – per Art Wigand

03-04 Feb – Enroute Long Beach; Underway training. – per Art Wigand.

--- 07 Feb – *US aircraft begin regular bombing in N. Vietnam.* – per WD.

04-09 Feb – At Long Beach. – per Art Wigand.

09 Feb – Enroute San Diego. – per Art Wigand.

09-10 Feb – At San Diego. – per Art Wigand.

10 Feb – Underway; Underway training. – per Art Wigand.

10-11 Feb – At San Diego. – per Art Wigand.

11-12 Feb – Enroute Long Beach. – per Art Wigand.

12-15 Feb – At Long Beach. – per Art Wigand.

15-19 Feb – Underway; Underway training. – per Art Wigand.

19-23 Feb – At Long Beach. – per Art Wigand.

22 Feb – Depart Long Beach. – per James Blair.

23 Feb – *Enroute San Diego; Underway training. – per Art Wigand.

*Arrive San Diego. – per James Blair.

*At San Diego. – per Art Wigand.

24-26 Feb – Underway for underway training. – per Art Wigand.

--- 24 Feb – *Ranger 9 spacecraft hits moon; pictures shown on live TV* – per DBD.

25 Feb – Underway, arrive Long Beach. – per James Blair.

26-28 Feb – At San Diego. – per Art Wigand.

++ **Mar 1965** ++ ref: catalog.archives.gov – 172752787 (*Search for this 9-digit number to view Mar DL entries*)

COLLETT begins the month based in Long Beach. Starts month at San Diego; ends at Pearl Harbor, HI.

*Operations during the month: independent & with USS Ashtabula (AO-51), USS James E Kyes (DD-787), USS Larson (DD-830), USS Blue (DD-744), USS Walke (DD-723). – per DL.

01 Mar – At San Diego. – per Art Wigand in Apr 10.

01-02 Mar – Underway; Underway training. – per Art Wigand.

02-03 Mar – At San Diego. – per Art Wigand.

03 Mar – Enroute Long Beach; Complete underway training. Arrive Long Beach. – per Art Wigand.

--- 08-09 Mar – *First US combat troops land in S. Vietnam.* – per WD.

--- 18 Mar – *Russian Aleksei Lenov becomes first man to do a space walk.* – per DBD.

24 Mar – Get Underway. – per James Blair.

24-30 Mar – Enroute Pearl Harbor, HI. – per Art Wigand.

30 Mar – Arrive Pearl Harbor. – per James Blair.

++ **Apr 1965** ++ ref: catalog.archives.gov – 172752857 (*Search for this 9-digit number to view Apr DL entries*)

COLLETT is in WESTPAC. Starts month underway to Taiwan Strait; ends underway in Taiwan Strait.

*Operations during the month: independent & with USS Larson (DD-830), USS Bennington (CVS-20), USS Philip (DD-498), USS Blue (DD-744), USS Chipola (AO-63), USS McCain (DL-3), USS Epperson (DD-719), USS Evans (DD-754), USS Walke (DD-723), USS Cimarron (AO-22), - per DL.

01-09 Apr – Underway; Local operations. – per Art Wigand in Apr 10.

01 Apr – *At Pearl Harbor. – per Art Wigand.

*Depart Pearl Harbor. – per James Blair.

04 Apr – ASW exercises with USS BARB, a nuclear submarine. –per Lin Morgan (in Mar 14) who later was a crew member of the BARB.

09 Apr – Arrive Pearl Harbor. – per James Blair.

09-19 Apr – At Pearl Harbor. – per Art Wigand.

19-30 Apr – Enroute Kaohsiung, Taiwan. – per Art Wigand.

19 Apr – Underway for Kaohsiung, Taiwan. – per James Blair.

23 Apr – Lose a day crossing International Date Line going west to WESTPAC. – per PD.

++ **May 1965** ++ ref: catalog.archives.gov – 172752929 (*Search for this 9-digit number to view May DL entries*)

COLLETT is in WESTPAC. Starts month underway in Taiwan Strait; ends underway in Taiwan Strait – per DL.

*Operations during the month: independent & with USS Blue (DD-744), USS Taussig (DD-746), USS Castor (AKS-1), USS Procyon (AF-61), USS Pollux (AKS-4). – per DL.

01-03 May – Enroute Kaohsiung. – per Art Wigand in Apr 10.

03 May – Arrive Kaohsiung. – per James Blair.

03-06 May – At Kaohsiung. – per Art Wigand.

06-10 May – Underway – Formosa Patrol. – per Art Wigand.

10-12 May – At Keelung, Taiwan. – per Art Wigand.

10-12 May – At Keelung Harbor (Taipei); possibly having to do with electronic surveillance off Vietnam. – per Lin Morgan in Mar 14.

10 May – Arrive Keelung, Taiwan. – per James Blair.

12 May – Depart Keelung. – see **NOTE 2** below.

12-16 May – Underway, Formosa Patrol. – per Art Wigand.

15 May – Arrive Kaohsiung. – per James Blair.

16-20 May – At Kaohsiung. – per Art Wigand.

20-25 May – Underway; Formosa Patrol. – per Art Wigand.

25-28 May – At Kaohsiung. – per Art Wigand.

25 May – Arrive Kaohsiung. – per James Blair.

28 May – Depart Kaohsiung. – see **NOTE 2** below.

28-31 May – Underway, Formosa Patrol. – per Art Wigand.

++ **Jun 1965** ++ ref: catalog.archives.gov – 172752995 (*Search for this 9-digit number to view Jun DL entries*)

COLLETT is in WESTPAC. Starts month underway from Taiwan Strait to Kaohsiung, Taiwan; ends underway from South China Sea to Yokosuka.

*Operations during the month: independent & with USS Castor (AKS-1), USS Renshaw (DD-499), USS Midway (CVA-41), USS Bonhomme Richard (CVA-31), USS Southerland (DD-743), USS Perkins (DD-877), USS Platte (AO-24), USS Reeves (DLG-24), USS Vesuvius (AE-15), USS Prichett (DD-561), USS Taluga (AO-62), USS Pyro (AE-24), USS Procyon (AF-61), USS Hassayampa (AO-145), USS Cimarron (AO-22), USS Zelima (AR-49). – per DL.

01-05 Jun – At Kaohsiung. – per Art Wigand in Apr 10.

01 Jun – Underway, Formosa Patrol. – per Art Wigand.

02 Jun – Arrive Kaohsiung. – per James Blair.

05-08 Jun – Underway, Formosa Patrol. – per Art Wigand.

08-30 Jun – Underway; South China Sea. – per Art Wigand.

08 Jun – *Arrive & depart Kaohsiung. – per James Blair.

*At Kaohsiung; Refuel – per Art Wigand.

--- 08 Jun – *Commanders authorized to commit US forces to combat in Vietnam.* – per DBD.

09 Jun – Underway in South China Sea. – see **NOTE 3** below.

28 Jun – Underway for Yokosuka. – per James Blair.

++ **Jul 1965** ++ ref: catalog.archives.gov – 172753065 (*Search for this 9-digit number to view Jun DL entries*)

COLLETT is in WESTPAC. Starts month underway from South China Sea to Yokosuka; ends underway in South China Sea.

*Operations during the month: independent & with USS Midway (CVA-41), USS Reeves (DLG-24), USS Mattaponi (AO-41), USS Frank Knox (DDR-742), USS Taluga (AO-62), USS Blue (DD-744), USS DeHaven (DD-729), USS Vega (AF-59), USS Paricutin (AE-18), USS Neches (AO-47), USS Cimarron (AO-22), USS Pyro (AE-24). – per DL.

01-02 Jul – Underway. – per Art Wigand in Apr 10.
02-17 Jul – At Yokosuka. – per Art Wigand.
02 Jul – Arrive Yokosuka. – per James Blair.
17-31 Jul – Underway; South China Sea. – per Art Wigand.
17 Jul – Underway for South China Sea. – per James Blair.
19 Jul – USS FRANK KNOX (DDR-742) runs aground on Pratas Reef in the South China Sea. We are one of the ships on scene shortly afterwards. Some FRANK KNOX crewmembers are sent by helo over to COLLETT. A Destroyer Tender got underway & comes to the scene. – per Lin Morgan in Mar 11.
22 Jul – Underway in South China Sea. – per James Blair.

++ **Aug 1965** ++ *ref: catalog.archives.gov – 172753135 (Search for this 9-digit number to view Aug DL entries)*
COLLETT is in WESTPAC. Starts month underway in South China Sea; ends underway from Subic Bay to Yokosuka.
*Operations during the month: independent & with USS Midway (CVA-41), USS Reeves (DLG-24), USS Pyro (AE-24), USS Blue (DD-744), USS Neches (AO-47), USS Pollux (AKS-4), USS Tolovana (AO-64), USS Vesuvius (AE-15), USS Mullaney (DD-528), USS Taluga (AO-62), USS Hassayampa (AO-145), USS Galveston (CLG-3), USS DeHaven (DD-727), USS Cimarron (AO-22), USS Zelima (AF-49), HMS Ark Royal, HMS Devonshire, HMNZS Royalist, HMS Falmouth, HMS Brighton, HMS Aisne, HMS Cassandra, HMS Euryalus, HMS Andrew. – per DL.

01-27 Aug – Underway; South China Sea. – per Art Wigand in Apr 10.
--- 16 Aug – *Race riots in Watts, CA.* – per DBD.
19 Aug – Provided naval gunfire support while in the Mekong River. –per http://www.benefits.va.gov/compensation/claims-postservice-agent_orange.asp
25 Aug – Underway for Subic Bay, P.I. – per James Blair.
27-28 Aug – At Subic Bay. – per Art Wigand.
27 Aug – Arrive Subic Bay. – per James Blair.
28-30 Aug – Enroute Buckner Bay. – per Art Wigand.
28 Aug – Depart Subic Bay. – per James Blair.
--- 29 Aug – *Gemini 5 spacecraft splashes down in Atlantic* – per DBD.
30 Aug – *Arrive Buckner Bay, Okinawa & depart. – per James Blair.
*At Buckner Bay; Refuel. – per Art Wigand.
30-31 Aug – Enroute Yokosuka. – per Art Wigand.

++ **Sep 1965** ++ *ref: catalog.archives.gov – 172753205 (Search for this 9-digit number to view Sep DL entries)*
COLLETT leaves WESTPAC. Starts month at Subic Bay, P.I.; ends at Long Beach, CA.
*Operations during the month: independent & with USS Blue (DD-744), USS Platte (AO-24). – per DL.

01-05 Sep – At Yokosuka. – per Art Wigand in Apr 10.
01 Sep – *Enroute Yokosuka. – per Art Wigand.
*Arrive Yokosuka, Japan. – per James Blair.
05-18 Sep – Enroute Long Beach, CA. – per Art Wigand.
05 Sep – Depart Yokosuka. – per James Blair.
10 Sep – Gain a day crossing International Date Line going east toward Long Beach. – per PD.
18-30 Sep – At Long Beach. – per Art Wigand.
18 Sep – Arrive Long Beach Naval Base. – per James Blair.

++ **Oct 1965** ++ *ref: catalog.archives.gov – 172753271 (Search for this 9-digit number to view Oct DL entries)*
COLLETT is based at Long Beach. Starts month at Long Beach, CA; ends at Long Beach, CA.
*Operations during the month: independent & with USS Blue (DD-744), USS Hancock (CVA-19), USS Guadalupe (AO-32), USS Brush (DD-745), USS Wedderburn (DD-884), USS Porterfield (DD-682), USS Agerholm (DD-826), USS Procyon (AF-61), USS Berkley (DDG-15). – per DL.

01-18 Oct – At Long Beach. – per Art Wigand in Apr 10.
18 Oct – Enroute San Diego, CA. – per Art Wigand.
18-19 Oct – At San Diego. – per Art Wigand.
19-22 Oct – Underway; ASW School Ship. – per Art Wigand.
22-29 Oct – Underway; Operation “Base Line.” – per Art Wigand.

22 Oct – Get underway. – per PD.
29–31 Oct – At Long Beach. – per Art Wigand.
--- 29 Oct – *US explodes H-bomb over Aleutian Islands* – per DBD.

++ **Nov 1965** ++ *ref: catalog.archives.gov – 172753337 (Search for this 9-digit number to view Nov DL entries)*
COLLETT is based at Long Beach. Starts month at Long Beach; ends at Long Beach – per DL.
*Operations during the month: independent & with USS Chowanoc (ATF-100), USS Platte (AO-24). – per DL.

01 Nov – At Long Beach. Enroute San Diego. – per Art Wigand in Apr 10.
01-02 Nov – At San Diego. – per Art Wigand.
02-05 Nov – Underway; Gunnery School Students. – per Art Wigand.
05-15 Nov – At Long Beach. – per Art Wigand.
15-16 Nov – Underway; Local operations. – per Art Wigand.
16-22 Nov – At Long Beach. – per Art Wigand.
22 Nov – Underway; Local operations; fired live torpedo. – per Art Wigand.
22-30 Nov – At Long Beach. – per Art Wigand.

++ **Dec 1965** ++ *ref: catalog.archives.gov – 172753403 (Search for this 9-digit number to view Dec DL entries)*
COLLETT is based at Long Beach. Starts month at Long Beach, CA; ends at Long Beach.
*No operations during the month.

01-31 Dec – At Long Beach. – per Art Wigand in Apr 10.
08 Dec – 1030 While working on a valve in the forward Fireroom, a BT suffered laceration of the second finger of his left hand when his wrench slipped from a nut. Treatment by corpsman. Disposition: returned to duty. – per DL.
13 Dec – While sanding a bulkhead in crew's after head, an FN suffered a laceration to his right knee when the sander slipped. Treatment by corpsman. Disposition: sent to sick call USS Frontier. – per DL.
--- 15 Dec – *Gemini 6 & 7 spacecraft rendezvous in space.* – per DBD.
27 Dec – 0850 Set the Special Sea Detail for cold iron move. 0940 Moored to Pier 15, Berth 3 with 3 other destroyers. – per DL.
30 Dec – 1113 An FN was transferred via ambulance to USS Haven due to muscle spasm in back and abdomen. – per DL.

NOTE 1: Several minor differences in recollections & records of these dates by various shipmates are deliberately retained in this timeline. Where a “Get underway” entry per PD agrees with an “Underway” or “Enroute” entry per a shipmate, the entry per PD is omitted in this timeline.

NOTE 2: The trips out of Kaohsiung & back again were usually when we were on Formosa Patrol [Taiwan Strait Patrol] between Taiwan & China; on one of these trips we entered Chinese territory; so said the Chinese – per James Blair.
* We turned off all radio & radar emissions & headed for the coast to force them to turn on radar & tracking systems so we could do ECM interceptions; CIC kept the CO informed about distance to coast; the Chinese claimed 12 mile limit but we pushed to 5 miles at times; they never sent aircraft or ships to check us out – per John Bauman.

NOTE 3: When we were in the South China Sea we made excursions to about 200 yards off of the Vietnam coast; Army spotter planes located the enemy on shore & told us where to fire our 5-inch guns – per James Blair.

NOTE 4: Per Chuck Kiesling in 2010, there were 116 shipmates on board for the entire year of 1965, however, per the PD, 433 shipmates served for some time during the year.

NOTE 5: During the 1965 Westpac cruise (April-September) I was the Captain's phone talker at GQ on the bridge. One incident stands out. In the summer we were shelling a junk (LBGB) tied to a dock. We used shells that exploded over the junk and ripped it with shrapnel. At some point a South Vietnamese Command Junk started out from the shore towards us. The word was that they had a jammed .50 caliber gun and they wanted us to help clear the jam. The XO (LCDR Ricardo) was worried that they might place a mine on our ship. He had two guns brought to the bridge. I think they were Thompson submachine guns. They were given to two white hats on the bridge who protested that they knew nothing about the guns. The XO said they were for show: "Just point the damn things in the direction of the junk." Since I don't remember anything else about the incident I presume everything turned out OK – per Lin Morgan in Mar 11.

NOTE 6: During the 1965 Westpac cruise, a photo (that Lin lost) was taken from the air of COLLETT firing a salvo of all 6 5-inch guns. The photo was printed in the Kansas City Star newspaper. Does anyone know how to get a copy of that photo? – per Lin Morgan in Mar 11.

NOTE 7: Action off the coast of Vietnam in 1965:

* Keith Johnson (onboard 64-65) in 2014 recalls that we conducted shore bombardment in the Mekong delta, where our targets were described as hidden junks. [Keith's recollection prompted Frank Olderr to ask other shipmates what they recalled from that time period, several shipmates responded as given below.]

* As phone talker on the Bridge, Lin Morgan (onboard 63-66) recalls in 2014 there were 2 bombardments in 1965, one was of a junk tied to a pier in the Mekong delta which was destroyed by the explosion of our air burst shells (probably the "hidden junks" incident as related by Johnson above & Tomlinson below) and the other was a shore bombardment (probably the "far south" incident described by Tomlinson below). In the "hidden junks" incident Lin recalls there were some 6-gun salvos but he didn't see the targets. Lin doesn't recall a spotter plane, but it was probably there. Lin recalls "at some point we were pretty close inshore. So close that we could see the shoreline and jungle. I was on the port wing of the bridge as the Captain's phone talker. On the port bow I remember seeing a junk I believe was tied up to a dock. We were seeing its starboard bow aspect. We were shooting shells that exploded over the junk. The shrapnel was hitting the junk but it didn't sink and was not destroyed. The shrapnel simply went in one side and out the other of the junk, or through the sails." Lin added "At some point after the shelling a junk came out from the shore on our port quarter. I recall hearing that it was a South Vietnamese Command Junk that had a jammed .50 caliber machine gun that they wanted cleared by the crew of our ship. The XO Benny Ricardo was on the bridge and was concerned that it might be a ruse and that they might plant a mine on the COLLETT. He ordered some small arms to the bridge; two Thompson sub-machine guns I believe. They were given to watchstanders on the bridge but I don't recall who. I do, however, recall that they explained to the XO that they didn't know how to operate the guns. The XO said something to the effect of just point them over the wing of the bridge and look menacing."

* Per Tom Tomlinson (onboard Jun 65 - 9 May 66) in 2014: I was the ship's shore bombardment Spot Net talker [Spot Net is the name of a radio circuit between the ship and a spotter plane] and the Petty Officer for the shore bombardment charts. One incident that I remember, but not the date [it had to be between Jun 65 & 9 May 66], is that we had an air spotter in what was basically a Piper Cub flying down the gun target line to a group of junks that were loading supplies in a lagoon about a mile inland. We got our spots from the Air Spotter and shot at the junks but the fuse timing was off. The junks were soft enough wood that when the shells hit they would just put a hole in them and not explode but go on into the soft bottom of the lagoon. We hit the junks 5 or 6 times but the spotter reported the shells were not exploding. So we changed the timing and started to shoot some more and then we started to blow up the junks and we blew up 4 or 5 of them. There was also a crossroads nearby where supplies from the junks were being carried to. We also shot that up pretty well. Then a high-speed gunboat came out of the lagoon heading towards us. We took fire from it but we were able to force it by gunfire to run away up the coast once it cleared the river to the lagoon.

*Also per Tom in 2014: Another mission that I remember [sometime between Jun 65 & 9 May 66] was very far south. It may have actually been in Cambodia. Since we didn't have the required chart for that area, an air spotter flew over and dropped the chart in a cylinder that we recovered from the water. When we got to the required location we had to go into a very shallow water area at high tide because the range of the target was at the maximum range of our 5-inch shells. (Lin Morgan remembers a shore bombardment on the west coast of Vietnam which probably coincides with this recollection of Tom's, but Lin doesn't recall anything about it other than its general location.)

*Also from Tom in 2014: "Another incident in 65 was when the COLLETT, RANGER, and BLUE were, I believe, the first ships to launch air strikes from the Gulf of Tonkin. We screamed up into the Gulf of Tonkin heading directly north. The reason I remember it is that we destroyers had to use a tactic called slide back stations which allowed us to protect the carrier but keep up with it. We went up into the Gulf 100 miles, launched an airstrike and turned around and ran back out as quickly as we went there because we were expecting Chinese gunboats from Hainan Island to take attack us, but they never did. I think that was actually the first air strike against the north from the Navy. I know this was early in the conflict. I think it was the cruise after the MADDUX and TURNER JOY relieved us, so it must have been early 65. I remember beforehand going to a briefing where we were told to expect to take a fire from Chinese gunboats."

*Also from Lin in 2014: "At some point during this cruise we spent an afternoon in Danang Harbor. I don't think there was any liberty and only some officers went ashore for a briefing. Again, this might have been in connection with electronic surveillance of the coast."

*Also from Lin in 2014: "On Yankee Station I recall looking at the radar repeater on the bridge and seeing 3 carrier TGs reflected there. It was an amazing sight to me. We did plane guards doing the strikes on North Vietnam and could see the damage on the returning planes."

* Also see Timeline entries per Lin Morgan for Apr & May above.

NOTE 8: Also on this usscollett.com website for 1965:

* See Photos by, for, or via Ed Arnholts, Bob Boyett, Clarence Forbes, John Fowler, Jim Glaze, U. L. Gutierrez, Bob Hall, Mike Kipper, Joe Kozerski, Larry Lamberth, Lin Morgan, Dennis Oldenburg, Frank Olderr, John Slater, Alan Turner, Glenn Williams.

* See History by, for, or via (none yet).

* See Stories by (none yet).

1965 USS COLLETT Shipmates

The following list includes information from USN Personnel Diaries & other publicly available sources.

Entries marked with (d) are known (or strongly suspected) to be deceased; such entries have not been updated since 2020. Names marked with (?) are suspected of being misspelled. The rate or rank given for a shipmate is highest he attained while onboard.

To learn more (or offer a correction) about an entry, e-mail olderr730@yahoo.com. To protect the privacy of shipmates, they will be told of your enquiry but will choose if they wish to respond directly to you.

Adams, David C - ETR3	Lamorie, Samuel G - FN
Adams, James G - SM3	Langendorf, James M - FTGSN
Adams, Jimmie L - STG3 (d)	Lanning, Robert C - BT1 (d)
Agulto, Nicholas - CS1 (d)	Largen, Robert D - MM3/BT3
Airheart, Willie A - DC2 (d)	Latham, Billy J - RD3/RD1
Aiuto, Nicholas E - MM2 (d)	Lawrence, Harry E - QMC (d)
Alexander, Charles L - ST1 (d)	Lazetera, Gary P - SN (d)
Alexander, William C - SN (d)	Leavell, Morris - CS3 (d)
Alferos, Ben - SD3 (d)	Lehto, Eric C - LTJG (d)
Anderson Alan R - FA (d)	Lemus, Marco - SM3 (d)
Anderson, Arthur G - MM2 (d)	Lewis, Frank N - FN (d)
Anderson, Arthur R - FA	Linardos, Anthony H - TMSN (d)
Anderson, Donald G - SN (d)	Lindsay, David H - FTG2
Armstrong, Carl P - SA	Linker, Robert - RM2 (d)
Armstrong, James R - ETR2 (d)	Liston, Jerry C - BTC (d)
Arnhols, Edward C - ETR2	Locker, Luther M - BT3 (d)
	Louis, Herman J - FN (d)
Bacon, James L - BT3 (d)	Love, Charles L - MM3 (d)
Bailey, Lloyd D - BT2 (d)	Love, Thomas J - SA (d)
Ball, James A - IC2	Loveless, Vernon R - GMG2 (d)
Barlow, Gary D - BT2	Lowery, Bobby G - SH2 (d)
Barrera, Victor M - DC2 (d)	Lucky, Johnny L - BT3
Bartleson, Jerry L - FN (d)	
Bass, Ernest L - BT3 (d)	Mackey, Terrance W - SN (d)
Bates, Richard A - SN	Madden, Frank E - RD1/RDC (d)
Battenfeld, Gary D - FN (d)	Manion, Patrick O - RM3
Bauman, John B - ETR3	Markus, Dale G - MM1 (d)
Beach, Denny Ray - DC3 (d)	Marsh, Robert G - MM3 (d)
Beam, John E - SN/SR (d)	Marshall, David J - RM3
Beam, Sherrill W - LTJG	Martin, Charles B - BT3 (d)
Belen, Pedro D - SD2 (d)	Martin, Leyman A - SHSN (d)
Bennett, Harry W - SN/SR (d)	Mayer, Earl F - SK3
Berger, Michael D - MM3	Mayer, Robert M - FN
Bernaert, Joseph A - PNSN	Mayetani, Gary M - LTJG (d)
Bishop, Hobson C - BT1 (d)	Mays, James E - CS3 (d)
Bitler, Larry W - SN	McClenaghan, Carl L - SN (d)
Black, Roger L - FA (d)	McDaniel, Jerry M - SH3
Blair, James B - ETC (d)	McDonald, Robert E - SN
Blount, James T - SN (d)	McGrath, Robert W - MM2
Bojarski, Alexander - GMG1 (d)	McLaughlin, Michael R - RM3
Bodge, James O - EM2 (d)	McManus, Patrick B - LTJG
Bond, Michael S - FN (d)	Meade, Larry R - ETR2 (d)
Boone, Joseph N - EM2	Meardy, Ronald R - LT (d)
Botelho, Stanley A - SN	Mendoza, Freddie - BT3 (d)
Boyett, Robert L - RM1	Merritt, William H - SN (d)
Bradley, Larry G - ATR2	Merseburgh, Oliver A - SN/FN/BT3

Bradley, Van S - FA (d)	Meyers, Duane E - MMC (d)
Brake, Steven D - SA	Meyers, Otto J - SN (d)
Brazel, Walter R - MMC (d)	Middleton, Robert J - SN
Breault, James J - MM3 (d)	Millichamp, John S - FTG3 (d)
Brockett, William A - LTJG (d)	Millsaps, Herbert W - MM3
Brotkouski, Thomas W - SA/GMG1 (d)	Mobley, George O - STG3 (d)
Brown, William - SN	Monday, Richard - SKC (d)
Bulau, Howard E - BT3	Moore, James E - SN
Burley, Ronald H - STG2 (d)	Moore, Joseph E - MM3/MMFN (d)
Burnham, Ernest G - QM2 (d)	Moore, Neal W - SN
Burton, Michael D - FA (d)	Moren, Robert W - SN (d)
	Morgan, Lindsey R - YN3
Caballero, Ramon G - RDSN	Morris, Franklin W - FTG3 (d)
Cagle, James A - SD1 (d)	Mueller, Russell G - SN (d)
Caine, James C - TM3 (d)	Mundt, Thomas E - RD2
Cameron, Thomas A - SN	Murphy, Marvin P - CS3 (d)
Canada, Roy E - SF1 (d)	Musley? G? C - STGSN
Canady, James T - SN (d)	Musquiz, Armando - EMC (d)
Candage, Edward H - ET1	
Capezza, Alfonso R - FN (d)	Nagel, Terry L - SK3
Carlson, Gustav H - BT2 (d)	Navarro, John W - GMG2
Carpenter, Robert C - SA (d)	Neiner, Bruce R - LTJG
Carty, Daryl K - BT2 (d)	Nevarez, John - RD3 (d)
Catchuce, Lawrence J - EN3	Newton, Robert C - LTJG (d)
Chadwick, Carl D - PN1 (d)	Nicolas, Rodolfo A/F - TN/SK3 (d)
Chance, Jerry L - SN	Nord, Eugene E - RD3
Charbonneau, John E - SN (d)	Novoa, Alvin - SN/SR (d)
Clapood, Donald H - YN3	
Clark, Leonard B - QMCA (d)	Oldenburg, Dennis E - MMFN
Clark, William L - BTCS (d)	Olderr, Frank J - ETN2
Clay, Roger L - SN (d)	Olmstead, George E - SA/FN (d)
Clemons, Harry V - IC1 (d)	Olson, Thomas C - FN
Cleveland, James B - MM3 (d)	Ontiveros, Edwardo - SN
Colvin, Steven - MMFN (d)	Overstreet, Bernard L - RD3
Conway, John R - SN (d)	
Coomer, David T - GMG2	Paris, Billy J - SHSN (d)
Cordier, Franklin L - FTG2	Parker, Thomas F - MMC/ENS
Correa, Jose - SA	Parker, Victor R - MM3 (d)
Correia, Arthur R - BMC (d)	Parks, Kenneth N - GMSN (d)
Cort, Bobby E - RD1 (d)	Parsons, Steve H - BT2
Cort, Dennis L - SA	Patterson, Wiburn C - BT1 (d)
Cox, Tony L - SN (d)	Phares, Hubert W - FN
Crabtree, Jimmie L - SN (d)	Piol, Cornelio M - SD3 (d)
Crump, Jimmie R - MM3 (d)	Pitcher, Edwin J - MMCS (d)
Cummings, James E - EM2 (d)	Plaschka, Robert E - SFFN
Cummings, John H - BTFN/SN (d)	Post, Carl E - EN3 (d)
	Powell, William L - FA (d)
Daniel, Victor C - BM3 (d)	Powers, Robert L - FTG2
Dauderman, Steven A - FA	Poynter, David A - GMG3
Daugherty, William E - FTGSN	Preece, Virgil L - EN3 (d)
David, Jerry W - MMFN	Pritchard, Fred T - CS2 (d)
Davis, Gary W - RM2 (d)	Pritchett, Daniel A - SN (d)
Davis, Richard K - MM1 (d)	Pugh, James J - SH3
Davison, Richard R - CDR (CO) (d)	
Deguia, Ernesto E - SD3 (d)	Quintana, Dominic - TN3
DelaCruz, Alfredo M - TN	Quisenberry, Thomas T - RM3 (d)
Deniham, John J - GMG1 (d)	

DePedro Roberto P - TN (d)	Raab, John E - GMG3
Dickey, John M - RMSN (d)	Rabel, John B - LTJG
Dillon, Terrence L - RM2	Radtke, Warren H - BT3/EN3 (d)
Dodge, Dale L - FA/FR (d)	Ramer, Rex J - FN
Dodsworth, Michael R - STG2 (d)	Randolph, Jimmy - BM3 (d)
Drath, Allan W - RD3 (d)	Rayfield, Charles G - SH1 (d)
Dugas, Gerald E - SF3 (d)	Rhodes, Christopher C - EM3 (d)
Duhon, Albert O - FTGSN (d)	Ricardo, Benny J - LCDR (XO) (d)
	Rich, Douglas C - BT3 (d)
Eakes, Glenn A - BMSN	Riskin, Mark L - EN2
Edge, Larry K - FTG1 (d)	Rivers, Dean S - SN (d)
Edwards, Phillip K - SA (d)	Robinson, Jimmie A - SN (d)
Eggeman, Paul D - SK2	Rodolosi, Vincent J - ENFN
Ehnot, Joseph E - BT3 (d)	Rogers, Gregory R - STG3 (d)
Emo, Michael F - SA (d)	Rogers, Jerry L - ETR3 (d)
Engle, Floyd F - GMG1 (d)	Rositer, Daniel J - IC3
Erickson, Robert A - BT3	Ross, Charlie B - SKSN (d)
Ervin, John W - LTJG	Ross, Donald J - EM1 (d)
Esberger, Edward J - SK2 (d)	Ross, Willis A - SH2 (d)
Estacio, Renato E - TN (d)	Rowe, Lonnie E - SN
	Rowland, Michael W - ETN3 (d)
Faux, Wayne B - SN	Rutland, William J - BM3
Fear, Edwyn A - RM3 (d)	Ryes, Ronald - BT2
Fischer, Paul K - RD2 (d)	Ryman Robert F - SH3
Fisher, Warren A - EM2 (d)	
Forbes, Clarence H - RM3 (d)	Sabalza, Joel B - DK2/DK1 (d)
Fowler, John W - RMSN	Sadamoto, Theodore K - LTJG
Fox, Don T - SN	Salinas, Al D - SHCA (d)
Frederici, John M - EMFN/EM1	Salley, Alexander M - LT/LCDR
	Sancrant, Michael D - GMG3 (d)
Gaddy, Chester O - SN	Santos, Malias L - YN1 (d)
Gainer, Lloyd L - QM3 (d)	Sapida, Arturo C - TN/SD3 (d)
Gauthier, Norman G - CS2 (d)	Schell, Norman L - BM1 (d)
German, Lowell D - SN (d)	Scheurer, Allan - MM1 (d)
Gilliland, Richard J - TMSA (d)	Schmidt, Richard J - BTFN (d)
Glaze, James A - MM3/MM1	Schneider, John H - MM3
Gleiter, Richard A - rate?	Schnieder, Robert P - FA/SN (d)
Gonzales, Raymond L - TN/FA/SA (d)	Schnetzler, Raymond L - EMC (d)
Good, Ronald C - TM3 (d)	Scholz, William E - SA (d)
Gordon, Robert W - SN	Sellers, Phillip W - BT2 (d)
Graham, Robert W - BM3 (d)	Shattuck, Chris L - FTG3 (d)
Grant, Wilmot N - SN (d)	Shaw, Harold E - EM3
Gray, John J - EM2 (d)	Shiflet, Craig D - SN/SR (d)
Gray, Joseph E - ST1 (d)	Shove, Lyndon L - MR2 (d)
Green, Larry W - SN (d)	Silas, Leonard E - BTC (d)
Green, William T - PN2 (d)	Silk, Rawlette H - MM1 (d)
Greene, Joe E - MM1 (d)	Simpson, Larry E - SA (d)
Gregerson, Glenn R - STG2	Skaar, Gary R - BT3
Gregory, Richard S - LTJG	Skorenki, Richard - BT1 (d)
Grevencamp, Eugene J - BT2 (d)	Slater, John W - LTJG
Gross, Robert J - SN	Slayton, Jimmie T - IC3 (d)
Grubb, Jerry L - DK3	Smith, George D - CS2 (d)
Gruenther, Christian L - ENS (d)	Smith, Robert C - BM3
Guild, Michael W - FN (d)	Smith, Robert J - MR3
Gunn, Charles L - RMCA (d)	Smith, Roger L - QM3 (d)
Gutierrez, Uvaldo L - SN	Smith, Thomas W - BT1 (d)
	Smith, William A - ETN3 (d)

Habegger, Roy A - ETR3 (d)	Soltys, John E - SN (d)
Habenstein, Kendall M - SA (d)	Sonnenberg, Richard - MM2 (d)
Hall, Robert E - RD2 (d)	Soriano, Rudolfo N - TN
Hamelund, Ronald K - BT2 (d)	Sparks, George A - PC3 (d)
Hammons, Billy L - FN (d)	Sponholz, Grant N - RM2
Hands, Robert C - SN	Statz, Daniel W - FA/FR (d)
Hansen, William L - LTJG (d)	Stephens, Jerry W - FA (d)
Harrington, Clifford E - YN1 (d)	Stewart, James R - SN (d)
Hawkins, Willie H - FA (d)	Stookey, Gary K - YNSN
Hazard, Leslie W - SN	Strain, Eugene R - SN (d)
Helton, Glen R - EM2 (d)	Strysko, Alexander T - RDC (d)
Henderson, David C - BT2 (d)	Stump, Arlington F - SN (d)
Hernandez, Francisco A - BM1 (d)	Swan, Henry - LTJG (d)
Herndon, Kenneth D - BM3 (d)	
Herrera, Dominador A - SKC (d)	Taylor, Earl B - FN (d)
Hines, James E - RD2	Taylor, Kenneth R - LTJG
Hively, Bobby L - SH3	Terramorse, Louis E - FTG2 (d)
Hockensmith, William O - BM1 (d)	Thomsen Douglas G - RD3 (d)
Hoffman, Donald L - LTJG (d)	Thompson, Earl W - STGSN (d)
Holmgren, Thomas J - FN	Tillotson, Thomas M - FTG2 (d)
Hood, Gordon C - ETN2 (d)	Tomlinson, Thomas L - RD3
Hood, William M - BM3	Tranzillo, Robert - SH3
Hoover, Leslie L - BT3 (d)	Turner, Alan P - RM2
Houser, Richard L - SN (d)	Turner, Theophalus - MM2/MMFN (d)
Howard, Wymon - TM1	
Hulsey, Bobby G - RM1 (d)	Umstead, Paul R - FN (d)
Humphrey, Allen W - RD2	Unger, Robert L - SN (d)
Hunter, Gene Ray - FTG3	
Husted, Thomas E - RD2 (d)	Vanmeter, Tony M - FN (d)
	Vaught, Jon M - GMG3 (d)
Ireland, Kenneth F - SN (d)	Veraszto, Richard J - ETN3
Ison, Bayani T - HM1	Vrooman, Vene V - LTJG (d)
Jacobs, Joseph - TM3	Waldorf, Leroy E - RD2 (d)
Jaquest, William E - SN	Waldron, Donald R - EM3
Jenkins, Michael E - BT3 (d)	Waldron, James D - SN (d)
Jennings, Joseph D - STG3	Wallace, Jamesley - SN (d)
Jensen, John D - RNSN	Wallingford, Jerry L - MM3 (d)
Jimison, Allen R - SN (d)	Ward, Thomas E - SM2
Johnson, James E - BT3/BTFN	Ware, William V - BT3 (d)
Johnson, James R - QM2	Weddle, Raymond H - BT2 (d)
Johnson, Keith A - LTJG	Wessels, Royal C - STG2
Johnson, Richard D - MM3 (d)	Westfield, James F - SN (d)
Johnson, Wilmer E - EM3	White, Donald G - RM3 (d)
Jones, Glen V - BT2 (d)	White, Eugene V - SMC (d)
Jones, Milton D - MM2 (d)	Wickert, Alan J - LT
Justice, Billy - MM1	Wigand Arthur F - STG2
Justice, Roger Lee - FN (d)	Wilder, Paul J - RD2 (d)
	Williams, Edward A - SN (d)
Kamphues, James J - SN (d)	Williams, Gerald F - MM3 (d)
Karston, Donald B - SN (d)	Williams, Glenn P - BMSN
Kellogg, Frederick J - IC3	Williams, John E - MM1
Kennedy, Roy G - BT3 (d)	Williams, Kenneth W - STG2
Kent, Gary P - SA (d)	Williams, Steven W - SN (d)
Kerr, Roger H - IC2 (d)	Windsor, Robert E - SA
Khoury, Steven M - FA (d)	Wolfe, Frederick W - SA (d)
Kimball, William T - FN (d)	Wolter, Gert - QM3

King, William T - SN (d)	Wood, William H - SA? (d)
Kipper, Michael T - SM3 (d)	Woodyatt, Teddy R - PN3 (d)
Kirchenwitz, Darrel E - MM3 (d)	Wright, Clifford L - GMG2 (d)
Kitch, Thomas R - FA (d)	
Kocin, James F - EM3	Yates, Ronald E - ETR2
Kolb, Leroy - SKC (d)	York, Gary D - EM3
Kolesar, Francis J - MM3 (d)	
Kozerski, Joseph A - BM2	Zimmerman, Alfred G - RM1 (d)
Kutchera, Albert F - BT2	Zimmerman, Robert F - SN
Kutis, Daniel - SH3 (d)	Zimmermann, William R - CDR (CO) (d)
	Zwemke, Jeffrey C - TMSN (d)
Lagrosse, James R - SN (d)	
Lamberth, Larry W - STGSN	
Lamorie, Samuel G - FN (d)	