



Forrest Vane Perrin (1901 – 1943)

Forrest V. Perrin had listed his home state as Illinois. His wife, Mrs. Laura Gladys Perrin of 540 Nebraska Avenue, Long Beach CA was living in Chula Vista at the time of her husband's reported death. He enlisted in the Navy on December 7, 1940, but had earlier served as the 1920 and 1930 census indicates that he was in the Navy then. In 1920, he was a 19 year old yeoman serving aboard the USS Tadousac, an ocean going fleet tug, and in 1930, he was married with a son and a civilian working in Long Beach, CA.

He was a Chief Yeoman (CYO) in the United States Navy (E7). His service number was 03248006. He was serving aboard the Aircraft Carrier, U.S.S. Liscome Bay (CVE-56) when it was sunk during the battle of the Gilbert Islands on November 24, 1943. Chief Perrin had been aboard since the commissioning on 7 August 1943.

From 1932 to 1934, Mr. Perrin was the Advertising Manager of the Chula Vista Star and was a member of the local VFW Post. He resided with his family on Church Street.

He is listed as having died on November 25, 1943 and his name appears on the "Tablets of the Missing" at the Honolulu American Cemetery (The Punchbowl) located at the Honolulu, Hawaii. He is listed as Missing in Action (MIA) or Buried at Sea. In 2006, the City of Chula Vista and the McMillin Housing Development honored Forrest Perrin by having a street named in his honor in the Lomas Verdes subdivision.

A brief history of the USS Liscome Bay follows:

History of USS LISCOME BAY:

USS LISCOME BAY was laid down 9 December 1942 by Kaiser Shipbuilding Co., Vancouver, Wash., under a Maritime Commission contract; launched 19 April 1943; sponsored by Mrs. Ben Moreell; named LISCOME BAY 28 June 1943; redesignated CVE 56 15 July 1943; acquired by the Navy and commissioned 7 August 1943, Capt. I. D. Wiltsie in command.

After training operations along the west coast, LISCOME BAY departed San Diego 21 October 1943 and arrived Pearl Harbor, 1 week later. Having completed additional drills and operational exercises, the escort carrier set forth upon what was to be her first and last battle mission. As a unit of CarDiv 24, she departed Pearl Harbor 10 November attached to TF 52, Northern Attack Force, under Rear Adm. Richard K. Turner, bound for the invasion of the Gilbert Islands.

The invasion bombardment announcing America's first major thrust into the central Pacific began 20 November at 0500, and 76 battle-filled hours later, Tarawa and Makin Islands were captured. LISCOME BAY's aircraft played

their part well in the 2,278 action sorties provided by carrier based planes which neutralized enemy airbases, supported landings and ground operations in powerful bombing-strafting missions, and intercepted enemy raids. With the islands secured, the U.S. forces began a retirement.

On 23 November, the Japanese submarine I-175 arrived off Makin. The temporary task group built around Rear Adm. H. M. Mullinnix's three escorts, LISCOME BAY, [CORAL SEA](#) (CVE 57) and [CORREGIDOR](#) (CVE 58) commanded by Rear Adm. Robert M. Griffin in NEW MEXICO (BB 40) was steaming 20 miles southwest of Butaritari Island at 15 knots. At 0430, 24 November, reveille was made in LISCOME BAY. The ship went to routine general quarters at 0505 as flight crews prepared their planes for dawn launchings. There was no warning of a submarine in the area until about 0510 when a lookout shouted: ". . . here comes a torpedo!" The missile struck abaft the after engine room an instant later with a shattering roar. A second major detonation closely followed the first, the entire interior burst into flames. At 0533, LISCOME BAY listed to starboard and sank, carrying Admiral Mullinix, Captain Wiltsie, 53 other officers, and 591 enlisted men down with her; 272 of her crew were rescued.

LISCOME BAY received one battle star for World War II service.

Chief Perrin was awarded the Purple Heart. He is survived by his wife, and two sons, Sergeant Forrest Perrin and Thomas. Sgt Perrin, USMC is on duty somewhere in the South Pacific at the time of his father's death.

