UNIVERSAL SHIP CANCELLATION SOCIETY

DATA SHEET # 18

SLOGAN CANCELS OF THE U.S.S. BROOKS
DD- 232 (1932-34)

The destroyer, U.S.S. Brooks was recommissioned in April, 1932, as part of Rotating Reserve Squadron #20. During the period, 1932 through 1934, Charles Olasky, USCS #45 serviced and had serviced covers for collectors. The covers bore various wording between the killer bars which commemorated historical naval events and holidays.

It was during this period that cover collectors became interested in the collecting of naval cancels. The cancels were first collected according to locations, then the interest in holidays, and some mail clerks canceled the covers in colors, black, blue, magenta, and sometimes in green.

This data sheet lists the slogans used in the killer bars aboard the destroyer for a period of nearly three years, and a special thanks to Larry Groh, USCS #920 for sharing his cover collection of USS Brooks covers and his help and that of Keith Kraft in developing this data sheet.

John P. Young, USCS #8219
USS BROOKS, by Chas. Olasky, USCS #45

The USS Brooks, destroyer #232 was recommissioned on April 1, 1932, after having been in a decommissioned status for over a year, at the Philadelphia Navy Yard.

Due to the pressure of work and the fact that personnel were not assigned to the vessel until the date of recommissioning, about two sacks of mail from collectors seeking the "First Day in Commission" cancellation remained at the yard's post office. The sacks were not picked up, until a day or two after the ship had been in commission. About 150 to 200 letters were mailed directly to the Brooks and did get the F.D.C., canceled either in blue or magenta.

The Commanding Officer designated me to act as the mail clerk upon commissioning of the Brooks, and my first mail trip took place on the 2nd of April. It was then that I brought back all the requests for the first day cancel, but it was too late. However, I did place in the killer bars, FIRST WEEK IN/ COMMISSION and followed the with second, third and fourth week.

About the middle of the first week that the Brooks was in commission, I thought it would prove a novel idea and a boon to collectors to commemorate important naval happenings by inserting wording between the killer bars relative to these events. As I thought, these cancellations did prove popular, and acquainted many cover collectors with naval history.

I am no longer the mail clerk aboard the Brooks, having giving up that assignment last August, due to the piling up of other work in the office. The present mail clerk is James R. Power, Radioman, Second Class, U.S. Navy. He is gradually being taught to continue the use of these cancellations and to be more careful in the handling of collectors' covers.

The Brooks receives nearly 3,000 covers a week for canceling and considering this amount, anyone would agree that it is no easy task to tend to each collector's whim or fancy. It is my suggestion, that collectors should send five covers per month, instead of mailing 20 to 30 at one time and asking the mail clerk to cancel one cover for each event. It is seldom that special cancellations are more frequent than five per month, as noted.

Among interesting letters received from collectors is one I recently secured from a self-called "refugee", living in Paris, France and is collecting the Brook's covers for their historical notations. He deserted the American Army during the World War, and has since married and lives in France. There are quite a few persons in Naval Hospitals, whom I am aiding with some naval covers and I assure you, that their letters of thanks leads one to weep as to how much joy a little effort on our part brings another human being.

I said once before, and I repeat now, that there is much more romance and genuine historical value in naval covers than most collectors realize. For instance, every destroyer is named for a naval hero- one who has accomplished a daring deed, or completed a brilliant task. First, get the cancellation; second, read in history what that man had accomplished to have a naval vessel named after him, and then I sincerely know you will value the cover, not for the paper and ink, but for its intrinsic value.

Source: USCS Bulletin #20 (pp.2-4) dated 31 July 1933
USS BROOKS- SLOGANS BETWEEN KILLER BARS, 1932-34

This listing may not be a complete list of slogans used aboard the destroyer. It is from a listing that was prepared by Charles Olasky, USCS #45, USS Brooks which appeared in USCS Bulletin #20 (31 JUL 1933) and covers in the collections of Larry Groh, USCS #920 and John Young, USCS #8219.

APRIL 1932
1 FIRST DAY IN/ COMMISSION
6 PERRY DISCOVERS/
    NORTH POLE '09
7 NAVAL ATTACKS/
    ON FORT SUMTER
11 REVOLUTION/ TREATY 1783
19 1st SHOT BY/ U.S. 1917
22 VERA CRUZ/ CAPTURED
24 1st US TROOPS/ SAIL 1917
30 WASHINGTON'S/ INAUGURATION

APRIL 1933
1 1 YEAR IN/ COMMISSION
   Note: 3LK/ First Anniversary/
   Recommissioned At/ Philadelphia, 1932.
6 WAR WITH/ GERMANY 1917 (t-5)
6 U.S ENTERED/ WORLD WAR
6 PEARY DISCOYS/ N. POLE 1909
11 REVOLUTION/ TREATY 1783
12 NAVY YARD/ BROOKLYN
13 JEFFERSON/ BORN 1743
19 1st SHOT BY/ U.S. 1917
22 PEARY RETURNS/ TO N.Y.1854
27 NAVAL ATTACK/ ON DERNE '05

MAY 1932
1 BATTLE OF/ MANILA BAY
4 DESTROYERS/ IN EUROPE 1917
8 MOTHER'S/ DAY
8 LITTLE SWEET/ DEAR MOTHER
12 U.S. FLEET SHELL/ SAN JUAN 1898
13 WAR WITH/ MEXICO 1846
17 NC-4 REACHES/ AZORES 1919
20 (no slogan)
22 U.S.S. GANGES/ SAILED 1798
27 LINDBERGH'S/ FLIGHT 1927
27 NC-4 REACHES/ LISBON 1919
30 MEMORIAL DAY/ PHILA PENNA
31 NC-4 REACHES/ PLYMOUTH 1919

MAY 1933
*1 BATTLE OF/ MANILA 1898
4 DESTROYERS/ IN EUROPE '17
*11 CREW DESTROY/ MERRIMAC '62
16 MOTHER'S DAY/ BROOKLYN
*16 NC-4 LEAVES/ TREPASSY '19
20 LINDBERGH'S/ FLIGHT 1927
23 ENROUTE/ CANAL ZONE
24 (no slogan)
   Note: Brooklyn Bridge Cachet
27 AT BALBOA/ CANAL ZONE
30 BOXER/ UPRISING 1900
30 (no slogan)

JUNE 1932
4 U.S.S. FULTON/ SANK 1829
4 TREATY WITH/ TRIPOLI 1805
13 FORMOSA SAVA/ GES ROUTED '67
14 STARS & STR-*/ PES FOREVER
14 MR EDMOND/ L. MILLER
15 WAR WITH/ ENGLAND 1812
15 FIRST DAY/ OF ISSUE
    (Olympic Stamps, 1932)
18 SAN DIEGO/ CALIF
23 1st SHOT by/ U.S. 1812
25 BOMBARDMENT/ OF VICKSBURG
27 COMDR WARD/ KILLED 1861
28 TREATY OF VER/ SAILLES 1919
30 TREATY WITH/ ALGIERS 1815

JUNE 1933
*3 THE SANTIAGO/ BLOCKADE '98
12 1st REV. NAV./ BATTLE 1775
14 FLAG DAY/ SAN DIEGO
18 FATHER'S DAY/ AT SEA
18 THE FORMOSAN/ INCIDENT '67
18 AT SEA EN/ ROUTE SEATTLE
25 THE PEIHO/ INCIDENT

* printed cachet by Camille Lacombe, USCS #68
USS BROOKS (con't)

JULY 1932
4 BIRTH OF/ THE NATION 1776
5 LAST DAY OF/ 2 CENT RATE
6 USS S-51/ FLOATED 1926
6 FIRST DAY OF/ 3 CENT RATE
6 BIRTH OF/ J.P. JONES 1747
7 HAWAII/ ANNEXED 1898
8 PERRY ARRIVES/ JAPAN 1853
9 U.S. Flag Over/ Yerba Buena
13 REPR'SAL/ CAPTURES PETER
15 FARRAGUT/ ADMIRAL 1866
18 DEATH OF/ J.P. JONES 1792
22 SAN DIEGO/ CALIF
22 PIRATES/ REPULSED 1802
25 SAN DIEGO/ HARBOR CALIF
26 FIRST POST/ OFFICE DAY
26 SPAIN BEGS/ FOR PEACE '98
30 Xth OLYMPIAD/ OPENING DAY
31 TREATY WITH/ FRANCE 1801
31 TREATY WITH/ TUNIS 1815
31 Xth OLYMPIAD/ 2nd DAY

AUGUST 1932
1 Xth OLYMPIAD/ 3rd DAY
2 Xth OLYMPIAD/ FOURTH DAY
3 Xth OLYMPIAD/ FIFTH DAY
4 Xth OLYMPIAD/ 6th DAY
5 Xth OLYMPIAD/ 7th DAY
6 Xth OLYMPIAD/ 8th DAY
7 Xth OLYMPIAD/ 9th DAY
7 FRIENDSHIP/ DAY
8 Xth OLYMPIAD/ TENTH DAY
9 Xth OLYMPIAD/ 11th DAY
10 Xth OLYMPIAD/ 12th DAY
11 Xth OLYMPIAD/ 13th DAY
12 Xth OLYMPIAD/ 14th DAY
12 PEACE TREATY/ WITH SPAIN '98
13 Xth OLYMPIAD/ 15th DAY
13 FALL OF/ MANILA
14 Xth OLYMPIAD/ 16th DAY
14 Xth OLYMPIAD/ CLOSING DAY
28 (no slogan)

SEPTEMBER 1932
2 ORDERS TO/ HANNA 1775
3 SHENANDOAH/ WRECKED 1925
5 LABOR DAY/ SAN DIEGO
6 BATTLE OF/ MARNE 1914
10 DEATH OF LT. BROOKS 1813
17 CONSTITUTION/ ADOPTED 1787
19 WASHINGTON'S/ ADDRESS 1796
19 UNKNOWN/ SOLDIER 1931
22 NATHAN HALE/ HANGED 1776
23 USS S-51/ LOST 1925
27 LANCASTER CAP/ ITOL OF US '77

JULY 1933
4 TACOMA/ WASH
8 MANEUVERS/ AT SEA
8 PERRY IN/ JAPAN 1853
18 JOHN PAUL/ JONES DIED
20 CONSTITUTION/ EVADES BROOK
27 PLANE/ GUARD DUTY
29 PLANE/ GUARD DUTY

U. S. S.
FEB 21
1933
A.M.
BROOKS

BATTLE OF
VERDUN 1916.

AUGUST 1933

*3 COLUMBUS/ LEFT PALOS
*5 BATTLE OF/ MOBILE BAY
12 PEACE WITH/ SPAIN '98
13 FALL OF MANILA 1898
15 PANAMA CANAL/ OPENED 1914
24 BATTLE OF/ BLADENBURG

IN COMMEMORATION
BATTLE OF VERDUN
FEB. 21, 1916
17TH ANNIVERSARY

SEPTEMBER 1933
*2 SHENANDOAH/ WRECKED '925
3 CHAMPLIN A/ PRISONER 1814
10 DEATH OF/ LT. BROOKS 1813
*13 MEXICO CITY/ STORMED 1847
17 CONSTITUTION/ ADOPTED '87

*22 NATHAN HALE/ HANGED 1776
*23 U.S.S. S-51/ LOST 1925
*printed cachet by C. Lacombe
USS BROOKS (con't)

OCTOBER 1932
1 MAJOR ANDRE/ HANGED 1780
4 BATTLE OF/ GERMANTOWN
7 BATTLE OF/ SARATOGA
8 TREATY WITH/ HOLLAND 1782
11 PULASKI DAY/ 1779- 1932
   Note: Pulaski cachet
12 DISCOVERY OF/ AMERICA 1492
12 DEATH OF/ R.E. LEE 1870
17 BUROGYNE/ SURRENDERS
19 CORNWALLIS/ SURRENDERS
21 OLD IRONSIDES/ LAUNCHED 1797
27 NAVY DAY/ ROOSEVELT DAY (t-5)
   b.s. type 3 SAN DIEGO/ CAL
28 BATTLE OF/ WHITE PLAINS
28 STATUE OF/ LIBERTY 1886

OCTOBER 1933
11 PULASKI DAY/ SAN DIEGO CAL
12 COLUMBUS/ DAY (t-3)
12 COLUMBUS DAY/ SAN DIEGO CAL (t-5)

NOVEMBER 1932
1 STAMP ACT/ BECOMES LAW '65
5 1st U S SHIP/ SUNK 1917
11 IN FLANDERS/ FIELD 1918
14 CHAS CARROLL OF/ CARROLLTON
   Note: cachet (red or blue)
17 1st SESSION/ OF CONGRESS
19 GETTYSBURG/ ADDRESS 1863
23 SAN DIEGO/ CALIFORNIA
24 THANKS-/GIVING DAY (t-3)
   Note: 4LK/ NOV 24 Official End of/ George Washington/
   Bicentennial Celebration/ 1732- 1932.
27 NAVY/ DAY
30 THANKSGIVING/ DAY

NOVEMBER 1933
5 1st U S SHIP/ SUNK 1917
11 IN FLANDERS/ FIELD 1918

DECEMBER 1932
1 1st KILLING/ FOR MUTINY
2 MONROE 1823/ DOCTRINE
3 1st FLEET PUT/ IN COMM 1775
7 THE MILAN/ DEGREE 1807
11 VALLEY FORGE/ WASHINGTON
14 WASHINGTON/ DIED 1799
20 CRUISE OF/ SAGINAW GIG
22 LAFAYETTE/ SAILS HOME
   Note: 4LK/ Marquis Lafayette/
   Returned to Native France/
   Dec 22, 1781. (1932)
25 MERRY XMAS/ SAN DIEGO
25PM WASHINGTON/ AT TRENTON
29 CONSTITUTION/ & JAVA 1812
31 MONITOR/ SANK 1863
   Note: where 3LK or 4LK appears, it indicates a stamped
   three or four line cachet documenting the event, applied
   by the Brooks' mail clerk or Charles Olasky.
   * Printed cachet by C. Lacombe

25 HOLIDAY/ GREETINGS
USS BROOKS SLOGANS (con't)

JANUARY 1933
1 WELCOME/ PROSPERITY
2 COLONIAL FLAG/ FIRST RAISED
6 T. ROOSEVELT/ DIED 1919
9 1st U.S. MAIL/ AIR 1793
19 PANAMA/ CANAL ZONE
22 CRISTOBAL/ CANAL ZONE
24 U.S. SALUTES/ PERU 1826
25** MAINE AT/ HAVANA 1898

Note: printed cachet- U.S. Battleship/ Maine Arrives at/ Havana Harbor/ Never to/ Leave Again/ January 25, 1898. (100 covers)
30 MONITOR/ LAUNCHED 1862

FEBRUARY 1933
1 GERMANY'S SUB/ CAMPAIGN
1 NAVY YARD/ BROOKLYN NY
2 IN MEMORI—/ MID. JARVIS
2 U.S.-MEXICO/ TREATY 1846
3 1811 HORACE/ GREELY BORN
6 PIRATE TOWNS/ DESTROYED '32
9 NAVY YARD/ BROOKLYN
11 YAP TREATY/ SIGNED 1922
12 LINCOLN'S/ BIRTHDAY
13 FLAG FIRST/ SALUTED 1778
*15 SINKING OF/ THE MAINE
19 CONSTITUTION/ & PHONEIX 1814
19 PANAMA/ CANAL ZONE
20 CONSTITUTION/ & LEVANT 1815

Note: year error 1932
20 CHAMPLAIN/ DIED 1870
21 BATTLE OF/ VERDUN 1916
Note: 4LK/ IN COMMEMORATION/ BATTLE OF VERDUN/ FEB. 21, 1916/
17TH ANNIVERSARY.

22 NAVY YARD/ BROOKLYN
22 WASHINGTON/ BORN. 1732
23 1811 BATTLE/ BUENA VISTA
25 MAINE AT/ HAVANA 1898

MARCH 1933
1 1845 TEXAS/ ANNEXED (AM, t-3)
(PM, t-5)
3 WAR AGAINST/ ALGIERS 1815
4 USS CYCLOPS/ LOST 1918
Note: 4LK/ IN MEMORY USS CYCLOPS/
Left Barbados With A Cargo/ Of
Nitrates, Never Heard From/ MARCH
4, 1918.
4 ROOSEVELT/ INUAGURATED
5 1770 BOSTON/ MASSACRE
6 A.J. CERMAK/ DIED 6:57 AM
8 EX-PRES TAFT/ DIED 1930
9 1862 MONITOR/ & MERRIMAC
Note: Commemorating/ The Battle
Between/ The Cheese-box and the
Raft/ Hampton Roads, VA 1862.

FEBRUARY 1934
1 GERMANY'S SUB/ CAMPAIGN
12 LOG CABIN TO/ WHITE HOUSE
14 ST. VALENTINES/ DAY
15 USS MAINE/ SANK 1898
22 WASHINGTON'S/ BIRTHDAY
26 CANAL ZONE/ PURCH. 1904

MARCH 1934
9 MONITOR &/ MERRIMAC 62
17 ST. PATRICKS/ DAY SAN
DIEGO
20 BON VOYAGE/ OLD IRONSIDES
31 LAST DAY IN/ FULL COMM
USS BROOKS SLOGANS (con't)
March 1933
10 1st PHONE/ MESSAGE 1876
15 SS VANDALIA/ WRECKED 1889 (t-3)
*15 THE APIAN/ DISASTER 1889 (t-5)
*17 1st SUBMAR-/ INE DIVE 1898 (t-3)
17 ST. PATRICKS/ DAY (t-3)
17 ST. PATRICKS/ DAY BROOKLYN (t-5)
18 G. CLEVELAND/ BORN 1837
21 SPRING IS/ HERE
22 STAMP ACT/ 1765
23 CONESTOGA/ LOST 1921
24 PERRY SAILS/ TO JAPAN
25 F-4 SUNK/ 1915

Note: The USS Brooks was placed in Reserve Commission on April 1, 1934 and went into the Rotating Reserve Squadron.

APRIL 1934
1 1st DAY IN/ RES COMM
4 IN MEMORIAM/ USS AKRON
9 PLEASANT/ TRIP FLEET
11 REVOLUTION/ TREATY 1783
25 WAR WITH/ SPAIN 1898
29 HORNET ELUD/ ES BRITISH '13

MAY 1934
6 BYRD FLEW O'ER/ NO. POLE 1926
13 MOTHERS DAY/ SAN DIEGO CAL
19 USS MACON AT/ SAN DIEGO CAL
22 MARITIME DAY/ SAN DIEGO CAL
30 MEMORIAL DAY/ SAN DIEGO CAL

JUNE 1934
*3 THE SANTIAGO/ BLOCKADE 1898
14 FLAG/ DAY
25 THE PEIHO/ ATTACK 1859

JULY 1934
4 INDEPENDENCE/ DAY 1776- 1934
12 USS MACON AT/ MARE ISLAND
17 USS MACON AT/ MARE ISLAND
26 SPAIN BEGS/ FOR PEACE '98

AUGUST 1934
7 MACON TO/ CAMP KEARNEY
27 POST REPAIR/ TRIAL RUNS
28 LT. CMDR. LOCY/ 1889- 1932

SEPTEMBER 1934
12 ZRS 5 AT SAN/ DIEGO CAL

OCTOBER 1934
12 COLUMBUS DAY/ SAN DIEGO
12 COLUMBUS DAY/ DIEGO CAL

27 OCT 34 THE US NAVY/ SECOND
7 NOV 34 MACON AT CAMP/ KEARNEY
11 NOV 34 ARMISTICE DAY/ SAN
29 NOV 34 THANKSGIVING DAY/
SAN DIEGO CALIF
19 DEC 34 ----/ SAN DIEGO CALIF
25 DEC 34 XMAS DAY/ SAN DIEGO
CALIF
1 JAN 35 NEW YEARS DAY/ SAN
17 JAN 35 ----/ SAN DIEGO

(type 5bhks) Missing bars
(type 5bhks) Bottom of dial cut off