

Post-War Navy Ships



Although, as previously noted, Ship covers weren't issued during the war, the battleship Missouri issued a cover bearing the name of the ship and "TOKYO 2. SEPT. 1945" to commemorate the surrender of the Japanese and the signing of the armistice, which took place on the deck of the Missouri. This is the first Post-War Navy Ship cover, and all covers issued after this are categorized as Post-War covers.

This is where the bulk of the Navy Ship covers are, almost twice as many as the Pre-War issues. There are no *old* covers here, no DQs, no Federals, no Crowns, but the great diversity of designs and colors, I believe, make up for this. Here, there are Giants, Features, full-color photos, and lots of Disney-like logos.

A few of the more interesting covers: Cover #B48a, U.S.S. Bushnell, AS-15... "SQUADRON" is misspelled as "SQUARDRON;" Cover #E17a, U.S.S. Epping Forest, LSD-4... "FOREST" is misspelled as "FORREST;" Cover #K8a, U.S.S. Keppler, DDE-765... a variation of this cover is identical, except someone forgot to print the ship! Cover #R44a, U.S.S. Richard S. Edwards, DD-950... reads "RICHARDS;" Cover #S14, U.S.S. Saratoga, CVA-60... the first ship actually built from the hull up as a carrier (1942).

The COMBINE listing is the master list for Post-War ship covers. It was done in the 1960s-1970s, and I have updated it and maintain it. There are currently 2,115 Post-War covers listed.

One other word, by the way, being both a Navy Ship *and* a Ship Line collector, there are Navy Ship covers that can go in your Ship line collection, should you choose to do so. Many of the ship lines' cruise ships were pressed into service during the war, and if you can track down exactly what they were converted into, those covers can help you "round out" the historical picture that your Ship line collection presents. The cruise ship *President Adams*, for example, became the *U.S.S. President Adams*, and the same for the *President Jackson*... but if no covers were issued during the war, would you be able to find such covers???

