

# USS TERROR (CM-5)

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I thought breaking "boots" was a big deal ----

I don't have to tell you about "mustangs". These guys enlisted early, were adept at their trade and were promoted quickly through the enlisted ranks and beyond. *Terror* had her share of these chaps, like Coombs, Csizmar and a clutch of others. When one considers rapid promotion, one Paul Barkley takes the cake.

Barkley enlisted on May 16, 1939. After a measure of electronic study at the Naval Research Lab in Washington he appears on *Terror* July 15, 1942 as a RM1c and plank owner. Although he hung around long enough to take the trip to Casablanca, his knack of installing electronics on new ships sent him quickly to greener pastures. In quick succession he is on the new destroyers *Bears* and *Leary*.

The first indication we have of any permanency is when we find him on *Ringgold* as an ensign. This was the Tarawa invasion. Here *Ringgold* made an indelible impression. Almost immediately *Ringgold's* 5" gunners scored a first salvo direct hit on the coming tower of a lurking sub. Unfortunately, the victim was the USS *Nautilus*. Barkley had nothing to do with this incident and I shouldn't have even mentioned it.

Now we fast forward to 1955 and now skipper of *Observer*, (probably an MSO) but after a year at Armed Forces Staff College he is in charge of a covey of things. Now, for a change of pace, a two year stint at the embassy in Bonn, Germany. Time for sea duty and XO of the amphibious ship *Capricornus*. More sea duty with old friend *Leary*, then off to a few years at the Pentagon. The year 1968 found him with his Captain's rank and skipper of the command ship *Pocono*.

It was inevitable that his final assignment was with the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington working on strategic plans and policies.

Captain Barkley and his wife Marguerite were laid to rest in Arlington July 18, 2005.



Paul Henry Barkley, Captain USN

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## THE LITTLE SHIP THAT COULDN'T

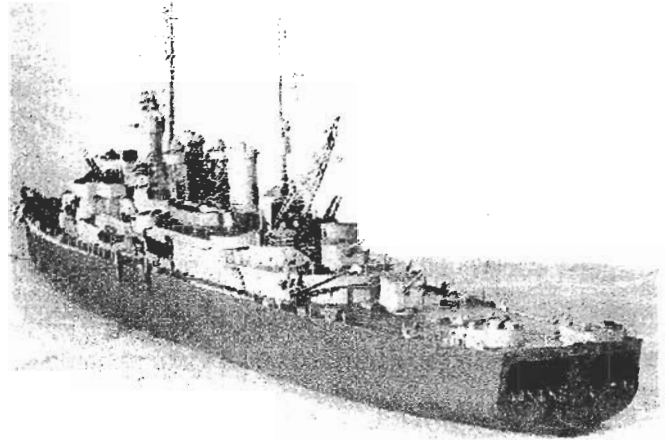
The twisted tale of the USS *Terror* model first came to my attention a few years back with a phone call from Charles McCloskey suggesting I might be interested in exploring the fate of the object. As with so many other things, this conversation encountered what little I have left of a fragmented mind and fell through the cracks.

At some later point, Leon Biscay inquired as to the fate of the model and of course I had no clue. When Annapolis was selected as a reunion site, I decided to pursue the elusive model. True to form, all the folks with whom I had talked and might give information were deceased. Still I blundered on and my travels led me to the model itself. We can now follow the travels and travails of the miniature itself.

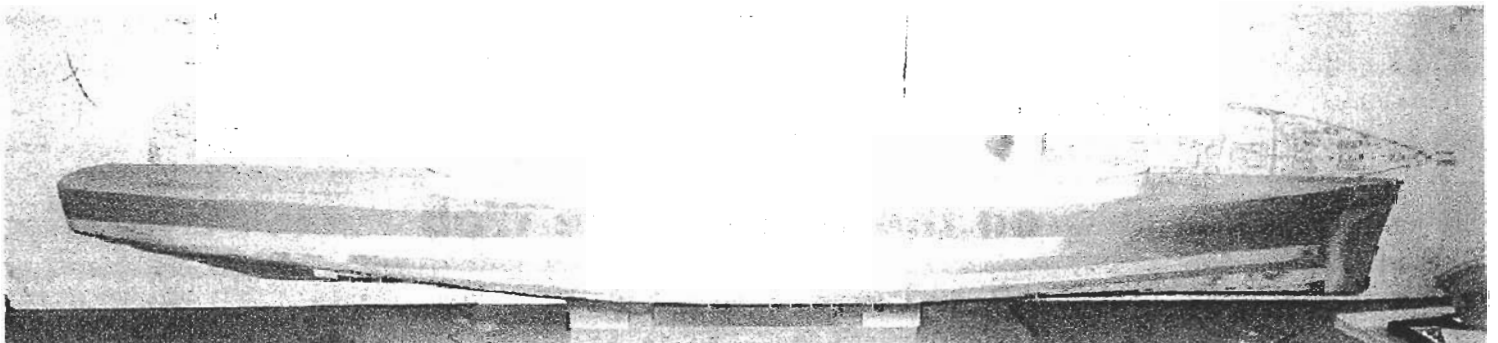
The project was the creation of Ed Doty ex Lt. and 3rd Division Officer. I do not know how long he labored on his pride and joy but in 1994 he considered the model "nearly finished" (see 1997 photo) and decided to give it to the Navy for completion and display. I located the photo seen here at the Washington Navy Yard but the model itself was no longer there, if indeed it ever was. They suggested Annapolis.

Telephone calls to the Naval Academy Museum always seemed to find people "away from their desk" and e-mails went unanswered until -- *Terror* Reunion 2006 at Annapolis. While the *Terror* folks were touring the great sights, Ed Wolfe and I slipped away, visited an empty Museum and were given an extensive tour of the Model workshop and here Ed snapped a picture of the *Terror* Model seen here as *Terror* 2006. Now the rest of the story that I have cobbled together --

It appears that Doty, sometime in late 1993, advanced feelers to the US Navy. The first record appears in a phone message to "Bob" at the Naval Academy from Capt. Barry Spofford as follows: "Has anyone offered a model of



USS *Terror* 1997



USS *Terror* 2006

model - continued

of USS *Terror*? Capt. Barry Spofford's father could raise funds for exhibit. Call." 1/27/1994

While no written records appear, negotiations went on through 1994 for transfer of the model to the Navy. The first written record now pops up from Doty. "(1) Will ship model within two weeks. Acquired virus relapse. (2) I mailed you a letter turning over ownership to USNA. Sorry for the delay." 1/17/1995

The letter referred to is a painfully written transfer of title sprawling over two pages. It apparently was good enough. As an afterthought Doty enclosed photos and requested that the model be on display at the Academy as well as at future *Terror* Reunions. Estimated cost for transmission \$1000.

Later Ed Doty wrote on 5/19/97 an impassioned letter to Admiral Larson in command at the USNA: Urgent: Robert Sumrall, curator of the US Naval Museum, delivered model USS *Terror* for completion and permanent stay at USNA. Please advise. Three years have passed. I'm 77 years old, time short, running out. I would like to be present if unveiled in your museum. My name is Ed Doty, USS *Terror* Mine Layer. Badly damaged. Your utmost information and cooperation in this matter in question would be greatly appreciated. I'm a totally disabled vet. 129 injured and 148 killed. Dead, Dead, Dead. Thank you. Ed Doty.

The Admiral notes to the curator "answer this" and the curator notes "I did." The answer is a composition of one and a half single spaced pages. The highlights follow: "Dear Mr. Doty, -- since this was the only purpose built minelayer -- it is a unique model which we hope to use as the centerpiece of a future display; therefore, it is important that -- (it) be completed to the highest standards. Work on the model averages eight hours a week. The hull had a number of irregularities; therefore, we needed the Lines Plan to accurately complete the shape of the hull. Plans were also located in the National Archives -- for overlapping plating and butt strap joints. Then we will fiberglass the hull for longevity. No commercial fittings available -- for armament, masters are being made from gun manuals. Likewise fittings are being made for bitts, chocks, fairleaders, cleats and on the ground tackle. This is also the case with boat and mine cranes. We hope to have the model completed and on display in about a year. Signed/ Robert Sumrall, Curator of Ship Models, June 6, 1997.

To conclude, one can see from the photos that little has happened in the last nine years and Ed Doty's desire to have a *Terror* model on display at future Reunions will never be realized.

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