RECOLLECTIONS OF ONE OF OUR MEMBERS

DEXLEY JOHNSON 1957

Life as a Junior Seaman

after Ganges

On leaving U.K 1958, having finished working up, I set sail on H.M.S.ULYSSES (F17) from Guzz to join BLACKPOOL, UNDINE & UNDAUNTED, to form the 6th Frigate Squadron in the sunny Med. That was the idea! However the Sea Gods had other ideas!!! Sometime during the middle watch we decided to mount (flat calm and clear skies) UNDAUNTED’s rear!! Oops. So back to Guzz we go to have the sharp end made sharp again. When the dockyard had finished and de-gaussing in a force 9, we went on our “Todd “to the Med. This was when I found that I that I suffered from violent attacks of MAL-DE-MER(up chuck to the uninitiated), this lasted three days through the dreaded Bay of Biscay and the only food I could manage, was tins of Mandarin’s from the NAFFI Canteen. Finally the dawn came when the most incredible sight I had ever seen so far in my short life, hove into view – THE ROCK – blue skies, flat sea, HEAVEN!!!

END OF PART ONE.

COUPLE OF POINTS OF INTEREST IN GIB

Squezo, Trocadero, Apes, Bristol Bar.

PART TWO NOTES

MALTA, stern to Sliema Creek, first sight of the “GUT” –“Tiny” – Big Eats- “Illustrious” Gypo Queen,- Bob Hope,- Lucky Wheel-Galvanised Donkey.

After the tourist thing in Malta off to Cypress Patrol, Naples-Pompeii(bought the compulsory Flying Fid), Greek Islands, Istanbul, Gales at Beirut, Monte Carlo Regatta, Sardinia, Mt Etna, Catania etc., Augusta, Cock of the Med.