

Historical Deck Log

United States Ship **Renshaw DD - 499**

Year: 1942

Day	Date	Month	Event
Sa	05	Dec	<p>Commissioning Day. Federal Shipbuilding and Drydock Company, Kearney, N.J.. Construction time: 160 days. Fit out: 53 days. Total building time: 213 days.</p> <p>Commander Charles H. Chillingworth, USN, Commanding.</p>
Fr	25	Dec	<p>In port, Casco Bay, Maine. Fire in the torpedo locker. One man killed, two injured.</p> <p><i>“Three men were inside the torpedo locker drinking ‘torpedo juice’ (alcohol used in the steam propelled torpedoes). A TM striker was supposed to be on look out but got scared and left. The hatch was secured by a couple of dogs and the men were inside smoking and drinking when a fire started. Someone discharged the CO2 bottles not realizing that there were men inside. SINGLETON, John, SoM3/c heard shouts and someone banging on the hatch and when he opened it he found COLEMAN, John, TM3/c dead, and two other men unconscious. COLEMAN was a veteran of the Battle of Midway and had seen a lot of action in the South Pacific before coming to RENSHAW. The TM striker was transferred off ship for his own safety.” – Harold Taylor and Dick Wenzel.</i></p>
Sa	26	Dec	<p>In port. New York Harbor.</p>