

Bill Brown

As I can remember, Betty and I were married in March of 42, after I was classes as 1-A for the army. Being in that category did not sit too well with me, so I enlisted in the Navy and within 30 days I was on my way to Great Lakes Naval Air Station, with the great pay of \$21.00 a month.

After 6 weeks of boot camp I had about 10 days of leave, then a short schooling on automatic weapons control systems. From school I was sent to San Francisco and on to Pearl Harbor, then to the Espirito Santos to the USS Enterprise.

At that time we were covering Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands.

About that time, I found out that not only do we shoot at Jap airplanes, but THEY SHOOT BACK!

I spent about two and one half years on the Enterprise. One million dollars with of experience, but you do not want another dollars worth.

The Enterprise was the most decorated ship in the navy and I am very proud to be a part of all the battles we had taken part in. We spent many hours at general quarters, a necessary situation, but we were doing the job we were trained for.

The men attached to the ship were the best in the navy. As many times that we were attacked and damaged, each man had a job to do and it was done.

A lot of people would complain about what their meals were, but when the Captain announced we would be having spam sandwiches for lunch or at 2 a.m., that was a treat! After all, we were still in a battle zone.