



COMING ALONG SIDE — The USS Hugh Purvis created an impressive sight as she was nudged by a tug to dockside in the Sampit River Saturday morning.



REUNION — The Purvis' visit to Georgetown was most welcomed by gunnerymate Frank Belcher, Jr. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Belcher, drove from their home in Americus, Ga., to meet their son here.

TOP SIDE — Large crowds thronged aboard the USS Hugh Purvis Sunday and Monday when open house was held aboard the destroyer docked at the State Ports Authority dock.

3,000 Tour Destroyer Docked In Georgetown

A Navy destroyer that steamed almost 50,000 miles in the past 12 months encountered one of its friendliest welcomes when it entered the Port of Georgetown for the Veterans Day weekend.

Some 3,000 persons thronged aboard the USS Hugh Purvis (DD709) during open house aboard the 376-foot warship Sunday and Monday afternoons.

It was quite a turnout as youngsters and oldsters crowded aboard the Purvis, climbing ladders and jamming through passageways to view such features as the ship's three twin five-inch gun mounts, anti-submarine torpedo tubes and the bridge of the sturdy tin can.

The 3,000-ton destroyer sailed from its homeport of Newport, R. I. last week, to first maneuver with submarines in the Atlantic before arriving in Georgetown for the Veterans Day weekend Saturday morning.

Georgetown and its Indian summer weather proved most welcomed after a rough night in heavy seas off Cape Hatteras. The Purvis received a roaring welcome as it passed the tip of the Boulevard and swung into the Sampit River. A large group of youngsters playing ball on the Boulevard rushed to the waterfront with yells, waves and whistles to greet the ship.

For an Americus, Ga., couple, the Purvis' visit to Georgetown was a particularly happy event. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Belcher drove to Georgetown to see their son, Frank, Jr., for the first time in seven months. The Belchers returned home with their gunner's mate son and seven other shipmates from the Purvis happily in tow.

Commander A. G. Hennessey, Jr., captain of the Purvis, said his ship had travelled almost 50,000 miles during the past year, steaming through the Atlantic, back and forth in the Mediterranean and in the Caribbean.

The welcome received in Georgetown was quite impressive, particularly a record turnout of 2,076 visitors Sunday

Daylight Saving Time To End Saturday

Sleepy heads will gain another hour of sleep Saturday night when Daylight Saving Time ends and clocks are turned back one hour.

Officially, clocks will be reset for an extra hour at one minute past midnight

afternoon which topped the number of guests to board the destroyer in one day that was set at Expo 67, Commander Hennessey said.

The Hugh Purvis is named in honor of a Marine Corps corporal who received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his exploits in the Korean Expedition of 1871.

The Korean expedition 100 years ago resulted from harrassment and attack on Americans by Korean pirates, including the massacre of the crew of the USS General Sherman while it was aground in the Han River.

Unable to gain satisfaction from the Koreans, the American government sent a strong naval force including the USS Alaska on which Purvis was stationed as a member of the Marine detachment.

During the expedition, it was decided to storm a Korean fort on the Han River. Hugh Purvis was among a force of American marines and sailors that climbed the parapet and engaged the Koreans in hand-to-hand fighting. Purvis seized the enemy battle flag and was joined by another Marine in removing the flag. Both Marines received the Medal of Honor, which was awarded to six servicemen in an expedition that had only three casualties.