Every time we moved and passed the USS Ancon, we had to stand in the middle of the deck at attention and salute. The seaman on guard would always return our salute. Of course, while we were standing there saluting, we were calling them every name in the unpublished book. It was nice that they couldn't hear us though.

We left Portland on the fourth of June at around 3:00 p.m. for France. Before we left, we all received a letter from General Eisenhower, wishing us luck.

Howard went on to participate in the Normandy invasion. This article is an excerpt from his own story, “An Amphibious Man”, edited by his daughter Jane Williams Butler. Howard and Jane both attended the LCT Reunion in New Orleans this year.

U.S. Naval Headquarters in Dartmouth, England. Photo courtesy of the National Archives.