

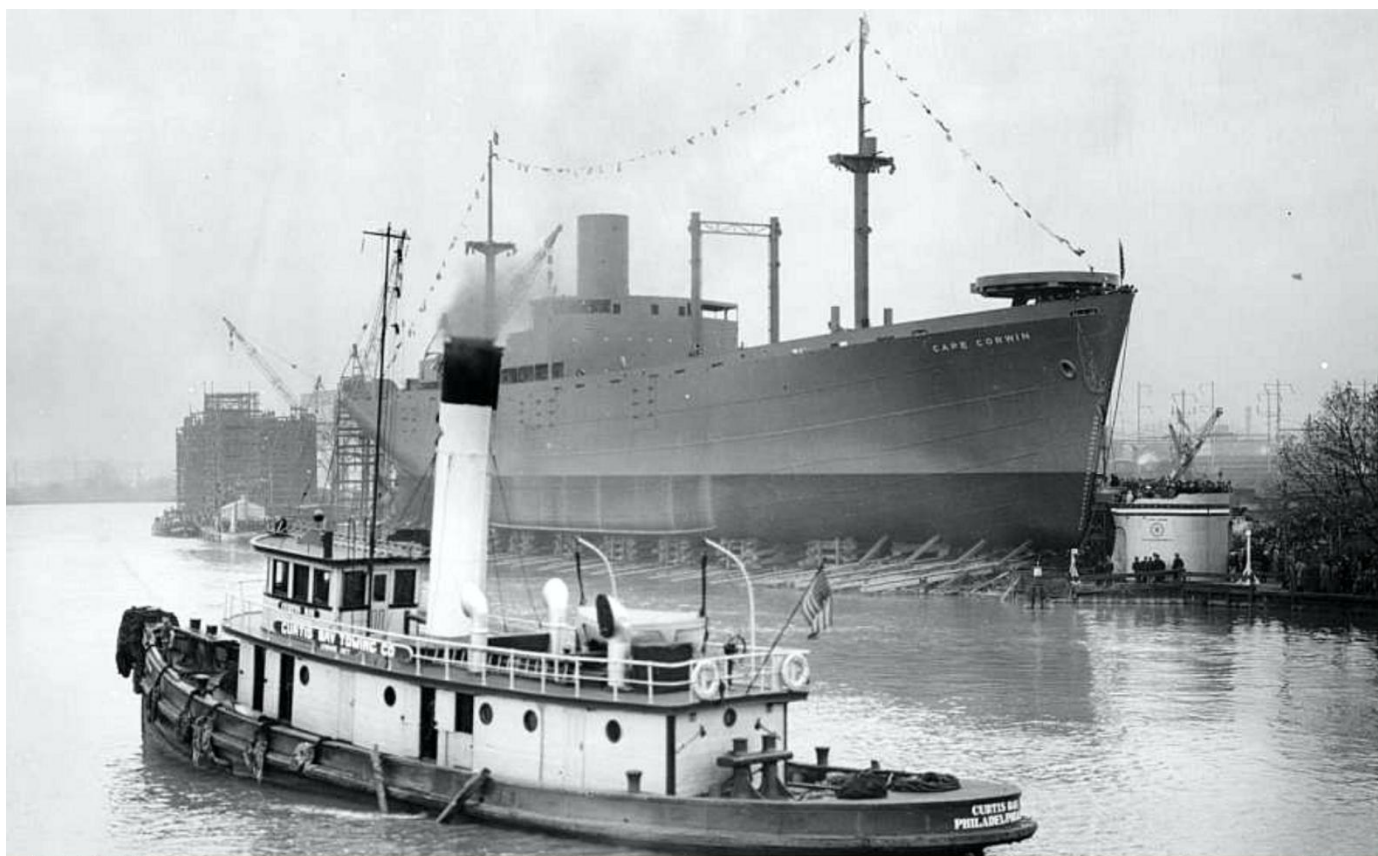
## **When the 9<sup>TH</sup> BG Went To Sea**

**Before dawn on 18 Nov. 1944, the Ground Echelon of the 9<sup>TH</sup> boarded a train and headed to Fort Lawton Washington, outside Seattle, arriving in the evening on 21 November.**

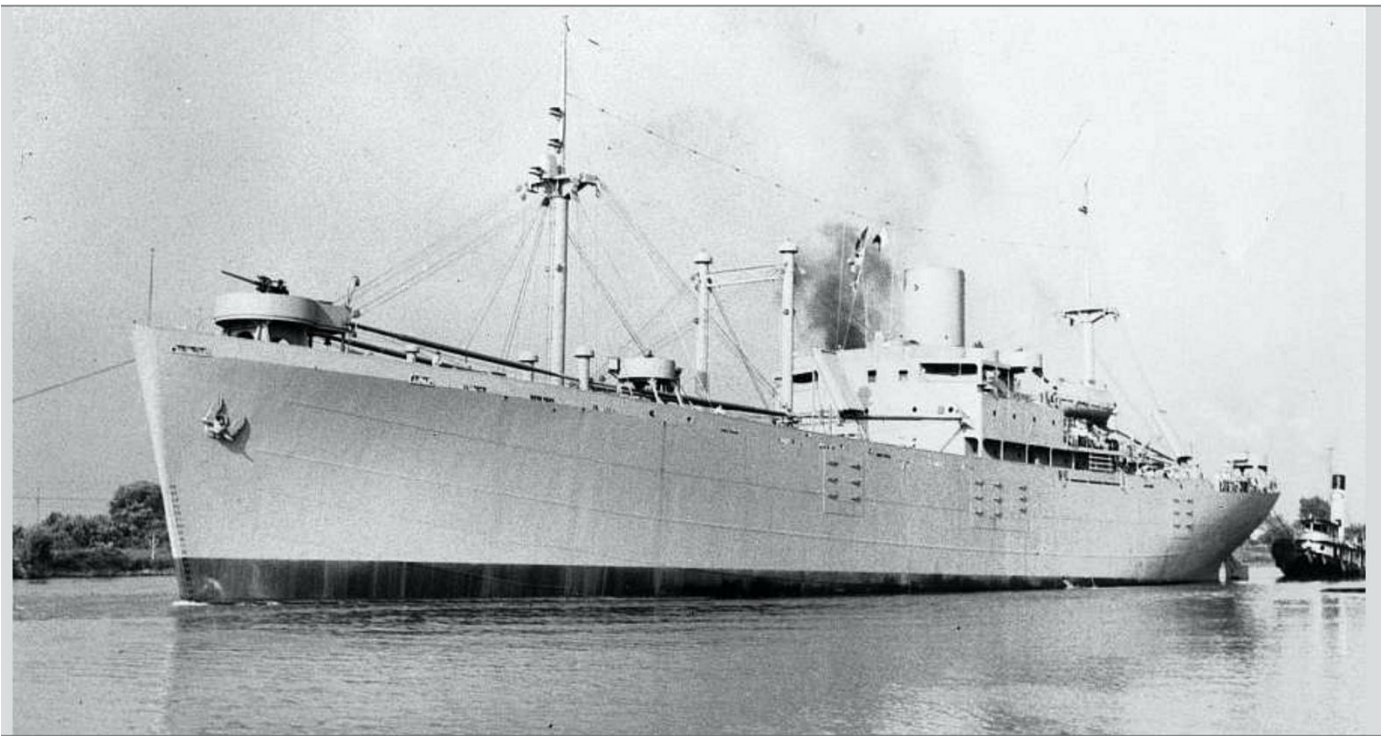
**On the 29<sup>th</sup>, they were aboard a transport ship named CAPE HENLOPEN**

**December 8<sup>th</sup> found them at Pearl Harbor, where they waited four days to join a convoy. They crossed the International Date Line 16 December.**

**Another five day layover (with no shore leave) in the Marshalls, they left for Tinian 24 Dec. and arrived 28 December.**



**Launched in Delaware, 1942**



**In November of 1945, many of the Ground Echelon put to sea again, on board an LST bound for Hawaii. There they would board the battleship USS WEST VIRGINIA.**

**Sunk at Pearl during the attack, she'd been raised, repaired and returned to action, even being present at the surrender ceremonies in Tokyo Bay 2 September.**

**The WEST VIRGINIA was making her last "MAGIC CARPET" run to bring troops back home, and arrived at San Pedro California on or about 20 December, 1945.**



**BB 48 USS WEST VIRGINIA**

# 'We Wanna Go Home!'

B. H. Feldmann Head Circled ✓



**ANXIOUS**—Jammed on warship deck, these service men voice their anxiety to head homeward. Hope that all these men would be off

In a few days, they were allowed off the ship, taken by trucks to a nearby military base, processed, and put aboard trains for home.