

PHILBRICK

Sea of Glory

America's Voyage of Discovery,
The U.S. Exploring Expedition, 1838-1842

VIKING

Who was
James Cook?

Vincennes - 700 tons
200 men

Sea Hull and Flying Fish (194 tons)
15 men each

Relief / Popoise / Reseach
100 men

The "Captain" issue
What is a passed
Widshipman

Animals must be
killed were property of
Mary.

Encl. was a non-military
operation.

His rank of Capt. Commodore
an obsession

William Henry
William Reynolds
William Hudson

Charles Wilkes b 1798 N.Y.C.
Cared for by Elizabeth Ann Seton - mother dies at 2 yrs.
Boarding schools
John Jacob Astor
Wanted to be a Navy man - his character ill suited him for
A life at sea p 9
Died his - He has gone to sea - never sees him again
Cruises to Med / Pacific / Peru
Captain Geo Pollard - The Essex - 3 ships - had to eat dead ^{collage} p 11
Sea Otters } need for charts of the Pacific
Seals
Funding of Antarctica

Chap. - Govt. sponsored exploration started with Lewis and Clark 1803
May 1820 - Congress passed a resolution requesting Pres. to
send expeditions to the Pacific
Jeremiah Reynolds - put in charge of finding water and
astronomer for cruise - Wilkes applied for it p 31
fall of 1825 ^{was} James Cook had been named for 2 years
his voyage to Pacific - his last for 15 yrs
Voyage of 1828 didn't happen - JQA left office - Andrew Jackson
Wilkes short tour of Med - got smallpox - sick for a year - 1831
Ferdinand Hassler - became Wilkes' teacher
1833 - Wilkes ordered to ^{was} take over Dept of Charts and Instruments
3rd child born - Edmund
Capitol Hill Observatory - influenced law makers - out of Wilkes
1200 ft from capital.
Andrew Jackson becomes advocate of exploration
Jeremiah Reynolds ~~addressed~~ address Congress 1836 - calls
for expeditions - gets 150,000 from House and Senate - similar
to landing on Moon
Navy Sec. Beckman opposed voyage - but sent Wilkes
to Europe for necessary instruments. Jackson wanted
trip to begin immediately. p 33
National Hawthorne couldn't secure a position as historian
on voyage.
Wilkes rescued Georges Banks
Charles Eastman - cabin boy - 16 yr. old. whipped for his
delay in getting letters when Porpoise was in Boston
On Nov 28 James Wadsworth Commander - tired of waiting
for expedition to begin.
Charles Wilkes named as commander

Chap 9
No letter from home in 1 1/2 yrs - Wilkes slipped into
ever deepening dispair p 189
Survey of Fiji - native dacher, trigger - savages
Confrontation with the natives - cannibalism
British Capt. E. D. Belcher - just came from surveying Columbia in the
Pacific northwest.
Hudson didn't know basis of seamanship - once happen
Pearcock became ship of gloom
July 20 - after turbulent days of surveying Reynolds took on Pearl
It was not - patient couldn't be held. Off island of Tavea
natives roasted 3 human brought one aboard eating the eyes
thron of coral atolls - Rarangi - By middle of July -
Vincennes and Flying Fish joined Pearcock at Bua Bay p 208
Wilkes would attack village to get boat back.

Chap 10
Massacre at Malolo - July 23
needed food - took a protective hostage - Underwood and
seven men went into Village
Hostage began to run - fired the musket - natives became
hostile in village - threw things at men - Walker Henry
shot and killed a native. Underwood was killed
Walker Henry - drowned after being knocked unconscious p 220
Wilkes fainted at sight of nephew - Wilkes sobbed as they
buried his nephew 16 miles away on an island
Saxton attacked the village - killed most of most - fire -
scalers only had one injury
Wilkes and 100 men met the conquered village on top of the hill
Wilkes lectured them about the punishment white man
Wilkes put Underwood's personal effects up for auction - Reynolds
was outraged

Chap 11 - Hawaii - Sept, 1840
40 letters from Jane were waiting - he was frustrated - worry
about a cabal of officers against him
Wilkes dismissed several officers - Lt. Dickinson sent him - fired
Dr. Hailston wouldn't hire Joseph Courthorn after his recovery
Wilkes laid ground work of his landing. Jackson still referred to him
as a Lt. - he was delusional and delirious p 238
No more than 12 lashes 25 men had received double the limit
3 men got a total of 300 lashes - severity dismissed from
On Dec 1840 - Wilkes and Vincennes journey to Hilo
His guide Hunt Judd almost got lost left on Kilauea volcano
Made it to summit of Mauna Loa - natives all returned to
below Jan 10, 1841 - heaviest winds - pendulum experiments p 255

Chap 7 Antarctica - Jan 1840

no special changes for or in American ships - Wilkes took
"Mask of Command" - one of a martinet - rigid discipline
who harnesses all around him p. 53 Jan now a great man
Squadron leaves Sydney - day after Christmas - Wilkes earned
reputation "ignorant and nervous" man - news on Vincennes
while "Drum Taps" - new dog called Sydney p. 59 Wilkes trusted
no one but Carr. - Jan 19 - sees land - Wilkes ignores it -
no mention of sighting land in log. Peacock became Hudson and
Reynolds) hummed in by ice - but the ice broke under
snowstorm - jing rigged rudder - men exulted
they got clear into open ocean - must go back to Sydney

Sea of Glory

Chap 8

Jan 23 Vincennes reached a bay in the ice.
Eam sighted the Porpoise
Jan 28 - the day when became convinced that there was land to north
1000 sailing - morning
Jan 30, 1840 Wilkes named land before him Antarctica
Continent
Jan 31 - medical staff presented Wilkes with letter
15 men sick - Wilkes stayed course
Feb 7 - weather had cleared
Reynolds and others continued a hatred of Wilkes
Feb 21 - Wilkes concluded cruise - 1500 miles coast of Antarctica
The French had set foot on inlet of Piney Bay Jan 21
3 days prior to 19th Reynolds and Peacock 1st sighted
land.
March 30 Vincennes arrives in New Zealand
Piney Bay -



Chap 3 p 46

William Reynolds volunteers to join E. V. E. P. May 13, 1838
Pomert offer Wilkes expedition. Jane and W. Coy - 3 years
service of desert - too young and junior
his ship 127 ft. Vincennes / 118 Peacock / 109 Relief / 88 Log Porpoise

70 Flying Fish / Sea Gull.

Norfolk navy officers didn't help Wilkes get ready for voyage
& omitted it - stops down so leg of War - Wilkes goes to Van Buren
Pomert after allows return - had promised to make Wilkes a captain doesn't
Jane has 1/2 child E. Liza
Jeremiah Reynolds - whose idea it was for expedition didn't get to go
Six vessels - 346 men - left Norfolk Sunday Aug 18, 1838

Chap 4 got off to a slow start - Peacock leaked - Relief slow
still unstarted about no Captain rank - made Overton Carr - flight.
Charles Easton on Vincennes - still smothering the flooding he
received from Wilkes on Seager cruise. He comes close to dropping
pin on Wilkes head p 12.

Madeira -
made its way South and went across Atlantic - phenon shows
his de James - First outbreak - demanded quick - He they went off
where is the son of a bitch - I'll thrash him p 80 A good cry
Pareidulum experiment
he got a warm bath and then collapsed - taken to a hotel Calcutta
Jan 6 - departed Rio Necholon called him Mr Wilkes instead of Captain
Jan 25 - dropped anchor at mouth of Rio Negro

Wilkes suspends First Lt Craven

Feb 16 - sighted Cape Horn

Feb 25, 1839 - based at Orange Bay - ready to head South - ice points
ahead - Wilkes turning pt. in discipline - He sends Lt. James Lee back to
U.S. after he quarters a despatch.

Wilkes took command of Porpoise to sail South to South Shetland Island
Porpoise and Sea Gull - all 200 sealers - temp 25° - clothing bad
A lot of storms - sailing around antarctic and South America

Dr. Dale of Relief stood (May 20, 1839) at Naval Court of Inquiry
They found no fault (p 109) Wilkes gave public reprimand

Dale incident - a watershed in the Exp. Exp. -
establishing a pattern by which over the 3 years
Dismissal of Craven at Rio Negro and Lee at Orange Bay - pure-jerk
Dale incident - a turning point according to Reynolds

Squadron leaves Valparaiso - Craven to be given command of
Sea Gull of his return - Didn't men who served under James

His nephew Wilkes Henry and the Deeds - Captain Wilkes officer
didn't want any court martial -

Captain Isaac McKeever made friends with Wilkes - got
his nephew Edwin De Haven appointed sailing master - Reynolds
and his fellow officers felt this was real turning point
for expedition - didn't appoint from within.

Chap 14 arrived in Wash June 13, 1842

Court martial July 25

5 Courts martial

- ① William Gray - spoke to Wilkes in insulting manner (Guilty)
confrontation over sea shells box
- ② Robert Johnson - arrested for refusing to lead expedition
(acquitted) from Puget Sound to May's Harbor
- ③ Charles Guillon - a doctor - charged with failure to account
for disappearance of tin metal ^(guilty, but commuted) using mining medicine
- ④ Robert Pinkney - six charges - not properly following
instructions in surveying the south shore of Upolu.
(Guilty - suspended for 6 months)
- ⑤ Charles Walker -
no guilty except for unnecessary floggings - given
written reprimand.

Chap 15

told he owed govt. \$12,000 - told parents to pay him
as a Capt. - should have Lt. com.

13 yrs. later promoted to Capt Sept 14, 1855

* Upham killed on board Princeton - after Peacemaker
was fired - monster cannon -
Wilkes was on board.
5 volumes - 3000 pages - copyright held by Wilkes
people were outraged

4 Mann sue Wilkes - thou he flogged in Hawaii
Spring of 1855 - only 2 plaintiffs awarded \$50

Chap 16 Legacy

Mexican War 1846 -

Reynolds - TB - goes to live in Hawaii

1848 - Jane Wilkes dies of falling - blood poisoning

Manny May Bolton - 5 yrs. later - a daughter born - Wilkes 61

Civil War - Wilkes commanded the San Jacinto

Wilkes stopped British ship Trent - took commission off
celebrated in Boston - ought have been illegal

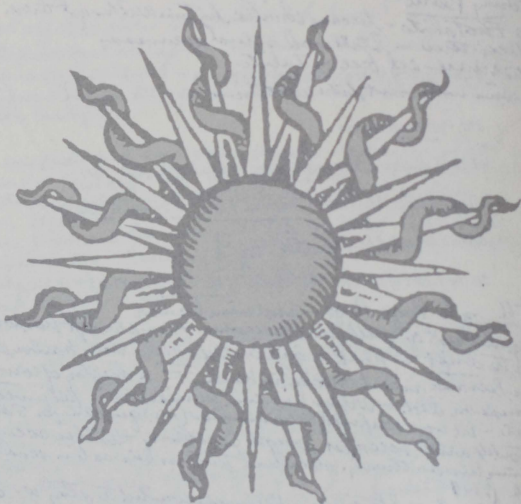
he won a war hero - made acting Rear Admiral - Navy Sec Wilkes
thought him arrogant - he was greedy - filling his pockets
Wilkes recalled Wilkes - he was court martialled - was found guilty
suspended for 3 years

Reynolds is used / sails to Pacific / claims Midway Islands
promoted to rear admiral / acting Sec of War.

Feb 8, 1877 - dies at home Lafayette League he 78

BOOKNOTES
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April 5, 1841 - Vancouver and Porpoise escape from Honolulu before Wether's departure
Columbian River - vessels require river bar pilot

May 2 - Vancouver and Porpoise anchored at ^{Strait of Juan de Fuca} end of May Wether goes to meet Hudson Bay Chief factor

Mr. John McLaughlin Peacock and FF left Honolulu ~~July~~ June 20 46 day passage to mouth of Columbia

Peacock never aground for good - they were trapped on board had to chop hole in bulwark. - Rescue attempt by black American John Dean and party of Clunook Indians - not mentioned by Hudson in his report - more than 60 officers and men left - all eventually get off - Peacock breaks up flying off shore watching 300 masts in Washington after crew

July 27 San Juan Is. Vancouver heads to San Fran Bay - Flying Fish to survey Columbia

Reynolds at 25 yr old Capt Purchased a brig from Hudson Bay Co. - called her Oregon

Hudson then ran Porpoise aground - 2 days Reynolds refused to alter his opinion of C.W.

end of Oct - arrival in San Fran

- ① Chopp - already been a successful expedition
 - ② Neutralized a French threat
 - ③ discovered a new continent
 - ④ Summary of Fiji at try price
 - ⑤ Chute up Mauna Foa staff of legend
- John Aulick left Honolulu ten days before C.W. got there. He determined his expedition

Jan 1843 - Reynolds came close to perishing at sea. - approaching Manila came upon a breaker -

Reynolds promoted - reads it in Boston paper - then on to Singapore. C.W. court-martial Knox - breach with his officer is complete

no promotion was forthcoming - his sister Eliza Jane not doing well - (Wether Henry) Jane and 4 children waiting - Capt. Jack goes into navy

Flying Fish - out of commission - of original 6 sailing - 2 remained - half of original 34 men / end of voyage total 524 ^{assumed}

New Sec Nav Abel Upshur shocked at Robert Pembury's account p 295

June 9 - approached New York harbor - Wether leaves ship

early to avoid Penman's problem - Verdoni died day after Vancouver's arrival - put head in a jar

July Porpoise returned New York via Rio de Jan.

Sept July 15, 1839 - give him self honorary rank of Commodore p117

On Aug 31st they saw their first Pacific Island
Reef - was the fruit of 280 to be surveyed by the Exp. Exp. - no
exploring on the first islands

Interpreter John Sac - born in New Zealand, lived some in US and
in Taliti. - When going ashore to first island - natives were hostile.

Scientists collect their first specimens p124
For Wilkes - relations with the officers went from adoration to contempt.
War between the two from this point forward - all social contact ceased
Wilkes told Pinkney of Flying Fish to leave to - He couldn't because
of possible collisions - I told you to react p127
Wilkes was not a team player"

One year into voyage - he didn't trust anyone but Lt. Overton
Cook - Surgeon Robert Walbran, Surgeon John Fox - became known
as "Stomach Petrel"

Sept 10 Foot Taliti - became Christian by time Wilkes got there. - Cook
had been there - Still had sexual openness
Scientists were set free on Taliti.

ALSO BY NATHANIEL PHILBRICK
Polynesian were not like Americans -

The Passionate Sailor

Away Off Shore: Nantucket Island and Its People, 1602-1890

Abram's Eyes: The Native American Legacy of Nantucket Island

Second Wind: A Sunfish Sailor's Odyssey

In the Heart of the Sea: The Tragedy of the Whaleship Essex

Oct 11 on to Pago Pago - American Samoa
Things did not go well for Vancouver - as she left harbor - she
began to drift - head right on the rocks near harbor entrance
Wilkes became silent - head in hands = a display of cowardice
All hands on deck - Wilkes had been humiliated - Reynolds
was late - he was confined to windowless (his) quarters for 5 days - 85°
Then trouble with scientist Joseph Coulthoury - Wilkes accused of
undermining his authority. Overhead him in his cabin reading his
journal. p148

Upolu - Rd. Lewis Stevenson - Reynolds wanted to stay w. Emma
Nov 10 - on to Fiji or Sidney - sailed from Apia Bay
Fishes in lucky bag - Reynolds protested - Wilkes sent him to beach
His cabin mate Willdoin Way protested - sent to Flying Fish.
Arrived in Sidney - w/o pilot - town people impeded, but Wilkes
had a pidgin native at his side but took the credit.

1877 - Reynolds die
W was 63
Charles Erskine - publisher
20 years before the event
53 yrs. after Walker whipped
Hiram