

**THE AMERICAN VETERAN
MAY 2007 EDITION**

SEGMENT TITLE: JOHN BROWN

KANE FARABAUGH, HOST: AND NOW A MOMENT IN HISTORY: OUR GREATEST GENERATION OF VETERANS WAS FED AND SUPPLIED BY ANOTHER GROUP OF COMRADES WHO GET LITTLE RECOGNITION. THE AMERICAN MERCHANT MARINE FLEET DURING WORLD WAR TWO WAS THE LARGEST FLOTILLA OF ITS KIND IN OUR NATION'S HISTORY. DUBBED "LIBERTY SHIPS" BY PRESIDENT FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT, MORE THAN 2,700 WERE BUILT IN 4 YEARS. DURING PEAK PRODUCTION, AN ENTIRE VESSEL WAS CONSTRUCTED IN JUST 40 DAYS. IF A SHIP COMPLETED ONLY A SINGLE VOYAGE, THAT WAS CONSIDERED A SUCCESS.

JOE COLGAN, USN RETIRED, VICE CHAIRMAN, PROJECT LIBERTY: WHEN PEOPLE THINK ABOUT THE MERCHANT MARINE, THEY HAVE NO IDEA THAT THE CASUALTY RATE FOR THE MERCHANT MARINE IN WORLD WAR II WAS EQUAL TO THOSE OF THE MARINES HITTING THE BEACHES IN THE PACIFIC.

MONTAGE OF SCENES FROM ABOARD SHIP, INCLUDING CARGO BEING OADED BY CRANE, PASSENGERS ASCENDING GANGWAY, MOORING LINES BEING CAST OFF, TUG BOAT ALONGSIDE SHIP.

FARABAUGH: THE LONE REMAINING LIBERTY SHIP, THE ONE THAT HASN'T MET THE SCRAPPER'S TORCH, SAILS IN BALTIMORE HARBOR. LET'S STEP BACK TO A BYGONE ERA AND JOIN THE FUN.

RAY BIERMA: MY SON AND I ARE TAKING A TRIP TODAY. AND, IT'S A WONDERFUL MEMORIAL.

A "BIG BAND" PLAYS "SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY."

MINISTER, BLESSING FLOWER WREATHS: IT IS WITH HOLY WATER THAT I BLESS THESE WREATHS.

TAPS IS PLAYED AS WREATHS ARE TOSSED INTO THE OCEAN.

BENJAMIN LYONS, FIRST OFFICER, QUEEN MARY II AND A, PROJECT LIBERTY VOLUNTEER: THERE'S SO FEW TANGIBLE ASPECTS OF THE PAST THAT YOU CAN REALLY EXPERIENCE. THIS SHIP IS SO MUCH MORE THAN JUST A MUSEUM SHIP THAT'S TIED UP TO THE PIER. YOU REALLY FEEL THAT.

FARABAUGH: WE HOPE YOU'VE ENJOYED THIS "SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY" ON THE JOHN W. BROWN. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE A REAL CRUISE ABOARD HER OR BE PART OF THE ORGANIZATION TO KEEP HER FIT, VISIT THEIR WEB SITE AT: WWW.DOT.LIBERTY.DASH.SHIP.DOT.COM.

END OF VIDEO