

September 30, 1943

Public Relations Officer  
Headquarters Eighth Naval District  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Sir:

The Law School at the University of Texas is publishing a News Sheet for and about its ex-students who are in the armed forces. I need a little advice about publishing some of the information that I receive. I have tried to be exceedingly careful in order not to do any harm in general or to embarrass any individual with the news that we put into the Sheet.

A few men have written to me in letters or on postcards that they are on certain ships. Except for one instance, I have never mentioned the name of a ship. That one time the boy wrote a postcard saying that he was on the U.S.S. San Francisco, and as this card passed the censor, I felt that it was all right for publication. In the letter that I wish to copy in our next issue the young man says that he is on the heavy cruiser U.S.S. Boston, "the finest ship afloat and I am very proud of her." Will you give me some general rules that I can follow with regard to such statements as the above.

Sincerely yours,

HH/d

Helen Hargrave,  
Law Librarian.



HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH NAVAL DISTRICT  
FEDERAL BUILDING  
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

October 2, 1943

ND8/07:DR:bn

Miss Helen Hargrave,  
Law Librarian  
The University of Texas  
Austin 12, Texas.

Dear Miss Hargrave:

We appreciate your letter of September 30, and the interest you show in cooperating with us.


We are enclosing a copy of the Code of Wartime Practices for the American Press issued by the United States Office of Censorship.

We believe that this bulletin will give you all the essential information you need.

As a general rule, it is best not to identify the name of a man with his ship. In some cases, where it is known that the ship has been sunk and officially announced as such, there is no objection to doing this. In the case of the letter in which the young man states that he is on the heavy cruiser USS Boston, we would suggest that you eliminate any reference to this ship. We urge that you also be extremely careful in carrying anything about submarine operations, and any reference to American prisoners, or to radar.

Lieutenant Brian Coyne, 901 Chronicle Building, Houston, is the Assistant District Public Relations Officer for the southern part of Texas and will be glad to be of any help he can to you. May we suggest that you refer to him any questionable stories prior to their publication. He is not a censor, but is in possession of complete information and will be glad to work with you.

Sincerely yours,

  
DON RIDDLE,  
Lieutenant, USNR.



EIGHTH NAVAL DISTRICT

OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS  
BRANCH OFFICE 909-10-11 CHRONICLE BLDG.  
HOUSTON, TEXAS PHONE CHARTER 4-2103

ND8/07:jbc:br

11 May 1944

Miss Helen Hargrave  
Law Librarian  
School of Law  
The University of Texas  
Austin 12, Texas

Dear Miss Hargrave:

In reply to your letter of May 10 this is to advise that officers and men are not to be identified with specific ships of the Navy unless officially released by the Navy Department in Washington.

Yours very truly,

*Brian Coyne*  
BRIAN COYNE -a.b.-  
Lieutenant USNR

Asst. District Public Relations Officer