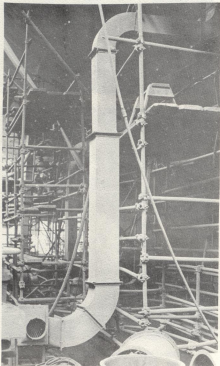


Ed's Notes, cont'd

instantly, and opened fire. The Jap bored in for our fantail, in a fast, turning power glide. At a range of about 500 yards he sprayed the flight deck with a burst from his 50s. At the same instant some 20mm slugs caught him inside his engine cowling, followed by several 40mm hits, and he fell off and hit the water fifty feet from our screws and rudder, exploding as he hit. His carburetor bounced up intact on the flight deckaft. Bennington casualties were incidental. Several men standing on the fantail dove for cover, cut their knees and elbows when they landed on a trash pile of tin cans."

I wonder if the crew auctioned off the carburetor or gave it to the men on the fantail as a memento.



Yardworker dips suction hose into murky sump in Fireroom Number Three.