

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

2000 NAVY PENTAGON WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-2000

IN REPLY REFER TO

5720 Ser N09B30C/0U513794 July 10, 2000

Mr. Joseph L. Pires 23 Rebecca Lane Osterville, MA 02655

Dear Mr. Pires:

This refers to your Freedom of Information Act request of July 3, 2000, in which you seek the names of the 62 men killed onboard the USS BENNINGTON on July 21, 1905. Your request was received by this Department on July 7, 2000, and assigned file number 200001279.

In an effort to assist you, I have referred your request to the Deputy Assistant Judge Advocate General for Claims, Investigations, and Torts Litigation (Code 15), 1322 Patterson Avenue SE, Suite 3000, Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5066, for action and direct response to you.

Should you require further assistance, please contact Ms. Sarah English of my staff at (202) 685-6583.

Sincerely,

DORIS M. LAMA

Head, DON PA/FOIA Policy Branch

By direction of the

Chief of Naval Operations

(202) 685-6545