

Dr. Edward N. Tihen (1924-1991) was an avid reader and researcher of Wichita newspapers. His notes from Wichita newspapers -- the "Tihen Notes," as we call them -- provide an excellent starting point for further research. They present brief synopses of newspaper articles, identify the newspaper -- Eagle, Beacon or Eagle-Beacon -- in which the stories first appeared, and give exact references to the pages on which the articles are found. Microfilmed copies of these newspapers are available at the Wichita State University Libraries, the Wichita Public Library, or by interlibrary loan from the Kansas State Historical Society.

Subject(s): U.S.S. Wichita

Wichita Beacon

Monday, October 28, 1935

page

1. The laying of the keel of the new cruiser, U.S.S. *Wichita*, was held today at the Philadelphia navy yard. Details.

Wichita Eagle

Tuesday, October 29, 1935

page

1. Keel of cruiser U.S.S. *Wichita* was laid yesterday at the Philadelphia navy yard.

Wichita Eagle

Thursday, October 31, 1935

page

2. Article about keel laying of U.S.S. *Wichita* on October 28.

Wichita Beacon

Tuesday, November 16, 1937

page

22. Report of christening of cruiser U.S.S. *Wichita* today by Miss Margaret Ayres at Philadelphia Navy Yard. Details.

Wichita Eagle

Tuesday, January 31, 1939

page

5. City commission yesterday appropriated \$1500 to buy silver service for heavy cruiser, U.S.S. *Wichita*, which is to be commissioned February 15.

Wichita Eagle

Saturday, February 4, 1939

page

10. The yearbook edition of the *Wichita Magazine*, with picture of U.S.S. *Wichita* on cover, was released for sale today by the Chamber of Commerce.

Wichita Eagle**Friday, February 17, 1939****page**

5. Article reports commissioning yesterday of U.S.S. *Wichita* at Philadelphia Navy Yard.

Wichita Beacon**Thursday, March 16, 1939****page**

6. Contract let yesterday to Cleon A. Whitney, local jeweler, for the silver service set to be presented to the U.S.S. *Wichita*. The set will be received here within 30 days and will cost approximately \$3000. The Salem pattern was selected. It will be manufactured at Providence, Rhode Island. Details. The city appropriated \$2500 for the service set.

Wichita Eagle**Thursday, March 16, 1939****page**

3. The silver service for the U.S.S. *Wichita* will be received here within 30 days. Contract was awarded by city commission to Cleon Whitney, local jeweler. The service will include 66 pieces and cost approximately \$3000. Details.

Wichita Beacon**Monday, May 1, 1939****page**

5. Report of presentation of silver service to the new cruiser, U.S.S. *Wichita*, at Houston, yesterday. Details.

Wichita Eagle**Friday, October 27, 1944****page**

1. Article reports on the war record of the cruiser U.S.S. *Wichita*. Details.

Wichita Eagle**Thursday, September 27, 1945****page**

5. Article reports on actions in Pacific in which cruiser U.S.S. *Wichita* was involved, including 67 days in the Okinawa battle. Details.

Wichita Eagle**Sunday, November 25, 1945****page**

5. The cruiser U.S.S. *Wichita* arrived at San Francisco yesterday from Sasebo, Japan carrying as passengers 825 veterans of the Pacific war. Article gives some details

about the war service of the ship.

Wichita Eagle
Sunday, June 19, 1955
Magazine
page

4. Feature article on U.S.S. *Wichita*'s wartime activities, with photos of ship at Scapa Flow and in Pacific.

Wichita Eagle
Saturday, April 21, 1956
page

- 18C. Article with reminiscences of a chaplain who served on the cruiser U.S.S. *Wichita* during World War II.

Wichita Eagle
Sunday, April 17, 1960
page
Magazine

2. Feature article on the U.S.S. *Wichita*, which is now being scrapped. It was sold last September along with other World War II warships to the highest bidder for scrapping, and in October was towed to Panama City, Florida, along with the heavy cruisers Chester, Portland, and San Francisco, for scrapping. Photo shows it alongside U.S.S. *Chester*, the latter having had superstructure removed, but the U.S.S. *Wichita* still largely intact. The ship is being dismantled by Cove Contractors.

Wichita Eagle
Sunday, October 8, 1961
page
Magazine

- 4., 6. Feature article about the U.S.S. *Wichita*, heavy cruiser during World War II.

Wichita Eagle
Thursday, October 3, 1963
page

- 8D. Details from diary of David P. Larsen, 37, of 540 South Oliver, about his service abroad U.S.S. *Wichita* for about a year during World War II. He is now employed at Beech Aircraft. ¶ He joined the ship on February 17, 1942 at Brooklyn Navy Yard. Ship then placed under command of British Admiralty for convoy duty between Iceland and Murmansk, Russia. Arrived off Scape Flow on April 2, 1942 and on April 28 left Scotland to take a convoy to Murmansk. On foggy May 1 ship ran through survivors from British destroyer sunk in collision with battleship King George V. ¶ On July 2, 3, and 4, 1942 the ship was in the fiasco when British Admiralty ordered ships in convoy to scatter and nearly all were sunk. ¶ Left Norfolk, Virginia October 28 for November

8 D-Day in North Africa. Engaged ships and shore batteries at Casablanca and received one hit from a shore battery. ¶ On November 11 the Wichita left for the United States for repairs and to make ready to depart for the South Pacific. ¶ She arrived at New Caldonia on January 3, 1943 and there the aviation unit was put ashore (Larsen's unit) because the canvas covered Curtiss seaplanes were considered fire hazards.

Wichita Eagle-Beacon**Saturday, March 16, 1968****page**

1. The new 37,000 ton fleet oiler, U.S.S. *Wichita*, will be launched today at the General Dynamics Fore River shipyard near Quincy, Massachusetts. Cost is \$28 million. Will carry crew of 389 and have speed of 20 knots. Her keel was laid June 16, 1966. Details. Follow-up report March 17 on page 1.

Wichita Eagle-Beacon**Sunday, June 8, 1969****page**

1. Report of commissioning ceremonies yesterday at Boston Naval Yard for the new U.S.S. *Wichita*, lead ship of a new class of navy oilers. Governor George Dockett was the principal speaker. Details. Ship was built by the Quincy, Massachusetts shipyard of General Dynamics Corporation. Keel was laid on June 16, 1966 and she was launched March 16, 1968.