

GORDON H. SMITH
OREGON

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3704

COMMITTEES
FINANCE
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION
INDIAN AFFAIRS
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

July 14, 2004

Dear Volunteers of the Amphibious Forces Memorial Museum:

Congratulations on the successful restoration of the USS LCI 713! I am proud of all your efforts to help preserve history by working to restore this ship.

I believe it is important that our nation continues to study and learn from the sacrifices of so many in the past. Landing Craft Infantry vessels played an important role in several key battles of WWII, and I know the USS LCI 713 was instrumental in the South Pacific Campaign. Now, due to your hard work, the public has an opportunity to learn more about the contributions of USS LCI 713 and all the sailors who served aboard this ship.

Thank you for your time and dedication to this project.

Warm regards,



Gordon H. Smith
United States Senator



THEODORE R. KULONGOSKI
Governor

May 21, 2004

Dear United States LCI Veterans Association Members:

I am very proud that the LCI Veterans Association Convention is being held this year in Portland. It is a great honor for the state of Oregon to be able to host you – especially this year when so much attention is being paid to the service and valor of America's World War II veterans.

This year marks the dedication of the World War II memorial on mall in Washington D.C. It is also the 60th anniversary of the invasion of Normandy. But, of course, veterans of that terrible war served around the world – from the Philippines to North Africa to Okinawa. Your courage, sacrifice and belief in liberty and democracy literally saved the world. My generation and future generations of Americans will be forever in your debt.

In addition to your great courage, American ingenuity also helped bring victory in World War II. There is no better example of that ingenuity than the Landing Craft Infantry ship. These small amphibious ships – which allowed up to 200 soldiers to hit the beaches in crucial battles in both the Atlantic and Pacific theaters – were absolutely critical to winning the war. They are a very important part of our history and should never be forgotten. That's why I am deeply touched to know that one of these vessels – LCI 713, which was found half sunk in the Columbia River – is being fully restored. I'm also very pleased to know that a documentary film is being made about the ship and the role that the "Water-bug Navy" played in our nation's great struggle for freedom. I congratulate the filmmakers for choosing such a worthy subject.

When I served in the Marines in the early 1960s, I drew inspiration and pride from our World War II veterans. I know that soldiers, sailors and Marines today – especially those serving their country in Iraq – draw the same inspiration and pride. We all stand on your shoulders.

Thank you for your service. Thank you for helping to keep the memories of the LCI fleet alive. And God bless you.

Sincerely,

THEODORE R. KULONGOSKI
Governor

TRK:HL/gsr

GARY LOCKE
Governor



STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

P.O. Box 40002 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0002 • (360) 753-6780 • www.governor.wa.gov

September 27, 2004

Erik L. Martin
Amphibious Forces Memorial Museum
3284 NE Bryce Street
Portland, OR 98212

Dear Mr. Martin:

I am pleased to support the efforts of the Amphibious Forces Memorial Museum (Museum) to restore two historic Landing Craft Infantry (LCI) vessels: the USS LCI 713, which earned a battle star for combat during World War II; and the USS Washtenaw County (LST 1166), which saw service in Vietnam from 1963 to 1973.

The Museum is helping to bring heightened public attention to the critical contributions that LCI vessels have made to military operations over the past 60 years. The "Water-bug Navy" deserves a cherished place in our history. While these ships may have been relatively small, they were instrumental in transporting troops and supplies directly to the scene of the conflict. Their landings in Iwo Jima, Okinawa, the Philippines, North Africa, Italy, the Mekong Delta, and numerous other locations in the Atlantic and Pacific theaters should forever live in our memories. The role of the LCI in the Normandy Invasion especially resonates with me. My father, Jimmy Locke, served under General Patton and was among those who took part in that pivotal battle.

I appreciate the Museum's interest in going beyond traditional restoration programs to actively engage these historical ships in educational and training exercises. Toward that end, I understand the Museum is pursuing agreements with organizations such as the Columbia Fire and Rescue and the local Sea Scouts. I hope such partnerships prove successful.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and I wish you all the best in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gary Locke".

Gary Locke
Governor



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Parks and Recreation Department

State Historic Preservation Office

725 Summer St. NE, Suite C

Salem, OR 97301-1266

(503) 986-0707

FAX (503) 986-0793

www.hcd.state.or.us



April 19, 2007

Mr. David McKay
Amphibious Forces Memorial Museum
8070 E Mill Plain Blvd, #204
Vancouver WA 98664

Dear Mr. McKay:

It is my distinct pleasure to inform you that the property listed below, nominated by the Oregon State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation and the Oregon State Historic Preservation Officer, was officially listed in the National Register of Historic Places on April 12, 2007:

USS LCI-713 AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT VEHICLE
100 39TH ST
ASTORIA, CLATSOP COUNTY
NRIS # 07000300

Listing in the National Register is intended to provide recognition of a property's significance as well as encourage its preservation. A benefit of listing in the National Register is the availability of tax incentives for qualified restoration work (see attached fact sheet). We would be pleased to assist you with the application process should you wish to apply. Please see the enclosure which explains in greater detail the results of listing in the National Register.

If you have further questions about the National Register designation of your property, please contact National Register and Survey Coordinator Ian Johnson at 503-986-0678.

Sincerely,

Roger Roper
Assistant Director, Heritage Programs
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Encl.

cc: Mayor Willis L. Van Dusen
Ms. Rosemary Johnson
Mr. David McKay



USS LCI NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

A NON PROFIT VETERANS ORGANIZAION INCOORPORATED IN PENNSYLVANIA

James E. Talbert, President
12238 Woodlund Trail
Council Bluffs, IA 51503
Tab626@cox.net
712-366-1094

John Cumber, Vice Pres.
700 Daniels Avenue
Orlando, FL 32801
cummjhn@aol.com
407-898-3875

Howard Clarkson, Treas.
73 Grange Road
Troy, NY 12180-6662
lcitiny@juno.com
518-279-3846

Robert McLain, Sec.
1829 Hemlock Road
Lancaster, PA1760
maxeyusn@aol.com
717-392-4558

25 May 2004

Gordon L. Smith
2313 N.E. 110th Avenue
Vancouver, WA 98684-4259

Dear Comrade Smith,

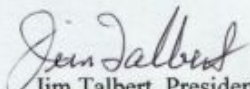
I can't thank you and your comrades enough, for your service to me and the members of the U.S.S. LCI National Association, at our annual Banquet at the Doubletree Hotel in Portland Oregon.

We are just a bunch of old WW II sailors that appreciates the best in military performance and that you provided us with.

I heard nothing but good comments, from my members. As an old member of my own VFW Post Honor Guard, I know how important that is.

Give the rest of the team a big pat on the back for us, and the best of luck to you in the future.

In Comradeship,


Jim Talbert, President
USS LCI National Association

RON WYDEN
OREGON



UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20510

August 12, 2004

Amphibious Forces Memorial Museum
3284 NE Bryce St
Portland, OR 97212-1725

Dear United State LCI Veterans Association Members:

It is with great pride that I extend my support for your efforts to create an Oregon based museum dedicated to the Amphibious Forces of World War II and Vietnam. The debt our nation owes to our men and women who have served this nation is great, and I deeply appreciate the principles behind your organization.

As this is the 60th anniversary year of the Normandy landings, I find it fitting that such an organization be launched with the intentions of memorializing the heroism that was displayed by those who served in the amphibious support units. It is clear that with-out their selfless sacrifice in the name of all that this country represents, our world would have been drastically different today.

Thank you for the long hours of work that you have, and will continue to invest in this worthy cause. Your leadership, service, and loyalty, is greatly admired.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ron Wyden".

RON WYDEN
United States Senator