



P.T. BOATS (PATROL TORPEDO)

MOTOR TORPEDO BOAT SQUADRONS TRAINING CENTER

ON FEBRUARY 17, 1942, THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY DIRECTED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MOTOR TORPEDO BOAT SQUADRONS TRAINING CENTER ON THIS SITE, MELVILLE IN RHODE ISLAND.

A RIGID SCHEDULE TRAINED LANDLUBBERS FOR THE STRENUOUS, HAZARDOUS DUTY ON BOARD "FIFTY TONS OF FIGHTING FURY" FOR COMBAT IN EVERY THEATRE OF WORLD WAR II. THEY WERE TAUGHT ENGINEERING, GUNNERY, NAVIGATION, SEAMANSHIP, COMMUNICATIONS, SUPPLY AND SURVIVAL. GLUED AND SCREWED TOGETHER, 80 FEET OF PLYWOOD HAD TO OPERATE AGAINST THE ENEMY FROM THE TROPICS TO THE ARCTIC. BY THE END OF WORLD WAR II MORE THAN 14,000 OFFICERS AND MEN HAD BEEN TRAINED HERE.

THE RECORD SHOWS THE TRAINING WAS MOST EFFECTIVE. FROM THIS GROUP HAS COME A PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN, A UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT JUSTICE, U.S. AMBASSADORS, GOVERNORS, JUDGES, MAYORS, PRESIDENTS OF LARGE CORPORATIONS, AND THOUSANDS OF 100 PERCENT PATRIOTIC AMERICANS. P.T. BOATERS ALL.

THIS HISTORICAL MARKER IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF THOSE P.T. BOATERS KILLED IN ACTION DURING WORLD WAR II. SPONSORED AND ERECTED BY CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF P.T. BOATERS, A GROUP DEDICATED TO HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE MOSQUITO FLEET.

P.T. BOATS, INC., BOX 109, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE - SEPTEMBER 5, 1976