

**COPY**



JOHN MCCAIN  
UNITED STATES SENATOR  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 16, 2008

My Friends:

I am honored to be able to share with you in the banquet and memorial service being held by the Sailors of both USS MURPHY (DD-603) and USS QUINCY (CA-71) today. I honor the heroic service of those in attendance and trust that the gathering will be rich in camaraderie and nostalgia for members of both crews.

Although long since retired from service, both the destroyer MURPHY and the heavy cruiser QUINCY played significant roles in conflicts whose outcome determined the fate of the world. Their historic service—and that of their crews—inspired generations of young Americans to serve their nation.

Both MURPHY, named for the Civil War hero John McLeod Murphy, and QUINCY, named in order to perpetuate that name after the previous *Quincy* was sunk during the Battle of Savo Island, received four battle stars for their service in World War II. MURPHY recovered from the tragic loss of 38 of her crew in order to join QUINCY and other ships providing critical fire support during the invasion of Normandy and throughout the Mediterranean theater of operations. Of course, both ships are duly remembered for their historic journey with President Franklin D. Roosevelt embarked aboard QUINCY and MURPHY providing escort to conferences in Malta and Egypt.

As Americans who served so bravely aboard these vessels, you committed yourselves to a cause greater than your own self interest and advanced the cause of freedom. As a fellow Sailor, I am reminded what a privilege it is to live in a nation that has been served both so long and so well by you, my friends.

Please accept my wishes of “fair winds and following seas.”

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John".

John McCain  
United States Senator