

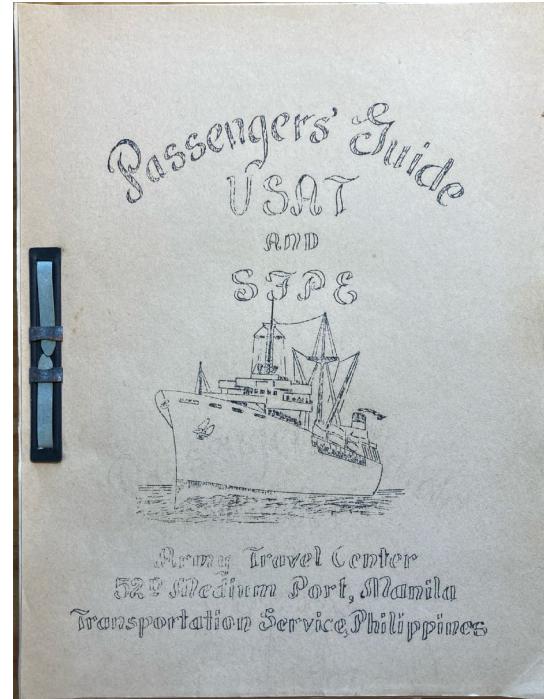
**Passenger Guide for US Troops & Civilians returning from the Philippines after WWII
Aboard the USAT *General C.G. Morton*, June 1947**

ELGES (Carl H., Jr.) Lt Col. ["Bon Voyage"].
*Passengers' Guide USA T and SFPE. Army Travel Center 52d
Medium Port, Manila Transportation Service, Philippines.*
[Manila], Army Travel Center, [1947].

(27 x 20.5 cm). [2], 27 pp. text on rectos only, except pp. 23-4 printed on both sides. Mimeographed, original printed wrapper, bound with folding metal fastener with three longer leaves at the end folded down. Black and white photograph laid-in (7 x 12 cm), annotated on verso. Printed on cheap paper, now tanning but with only the occasional chip at an edge or two; a very well-preserved copy of a scarce item (we locate no copies in OCLC).

• Date derived from Memorandum Annex V. (p. 25) and an inserted photograph.

\$1,300



A seemingly unrecorded mimeographed and densely written guide for military and civilian personnel returning from the Philippines at the end of World War Two via United States Army Transport. The guide provides procedures and accommodations for ship transport during the voyage from Manila to the U.S., and then for the very particular steps that are to be followed at either Fort Mason in San Francisco or the Oakland Army Base post-arrival.

The publication is rich with useful information for all persons returning to the US from their wartime station abroad, and covers the administrative structure of the Army Travel Center and even the very particular physical configuration of the two classes of ships used for transportation, down to the number of passengers (enlisted, officers, civilians) that can be carried, the amount of cargo, and the engine power and size of the two different ships. Among the procedures covered after debarkation: details on customs, baggage and shipping of household goods and automobiles, transportation to subsequent duty stations, and bringing servants from the Philippines.

A photograph is laid-in, captioned in ink on the verso: "Manila Harbor, June 13, 1947, Filipino Army band and people watching the ship leave for San Francisco."

The lifeboat visible at right reveals that the ship was the USAT *General C. G. Morton*, which entered US Army Transportation Service in 1946 for transporting passengers from the Pacific Theater.

According to the guide, the *General C.G. Morton* would have been a C-4 transport with capacity for 3,300



passengers. Steam driven with a single screw propeller, the ship measured 622 feet long with a capacity for 17,300 tons and a speed of 18 knots (p. 3).

Because the guide is written with consideration for a mixed group of passengers (military and civilian), it provides a thorough description of the functions and services onboard a military vessel, including hospital, stewards, laundry, a "diet kitchen" for preparation of food for infants, a post exchange (for sundries, pharmacy, etc.), dining facilities, and recreation.

There are also instructions for tipping, which at first appears as a regulation-bound guide to compensation for cabin services, but is also one that reminds civilian passengers that "Service personnel and luxuries are limited and will be proportioned among all passengers. Don't expect or ask unreasonable attention."

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For 20 to 30 days:

Cabin Boy Single - \$2.00 Family - \$3.00
Mess Boy " - 2.00 " - 3.00

This is not a hard and fast rule, however. Use your own discretion but always remember that this is a military vessel. Service personnel and luxuries are limited and will be proportioned among all passengers. Don't expect or ask unreasonable attention.

The most detailed section is that for the debarkation procedures at Fort Mason, which covers all aspects of arrival and the facilities of the base just after the end of World War II, including a brief history of Fort Mason and a highly detailed four-page "Services & Facilities" guide that describes the location and availability of everything from the commissary and the cafeteria to the watch shop and dry-cleaning services.

TRANSPORT REGULATIONS

The Transport Rules, Regulations and Instructions to be found aboard ship in your quarters, will govern the conduct of all passengers aboard this transport. These regulations are based on pertinent Army Regulations and the experience of many Transport Commanders and are devised for your personal safety and convenience. They should be read carefully by all passengers at the earliest possible moment. Orders, details and plans that become necessary are published in daily Orders.

In order to acquaint you with what to expect, before boarding Ship, the following notes have been extracted from the Official Ship's Regulations:

1. Staterooms are assigned for the voyage by the Port of Embarkation.
2. You are requested to vacate your cabin during the room Steward's daily cleanup. Help keep your quarters tidy.
3. Ship's property is not to be taken from the stateroom.
4. "Off Limits" for male passengers, all female quarters.
5. "Off Limits" for all female passengers, all male quarters.
6. Observe all restricted areas posted by signs or guarded by sentries.
7. Army regulations prohibit the possession or consumption of intoxicating liquors aboard an Army Transport.
8. All decks topside are off limits after 2300 (11:00 PM).
9. The first class lounge will be closed at 2400 (Midnight).
10. Be prompt for meals. The schedule, as posted, will be adhered to.
11. No food or dishes will be taken from the dining salon.
12. Military Personnel will be in proper uniform when out of the stateroom.
13. Female passengers will dress discreetly. Abbreviated costumes are not considered discreet on any Army Transport.
14. Male civilians must be properly clad. T-Shirts or sweat shirts are prohibited at meals.
15. Sun bathing is permitted only in designated areas.
16. Don't waste fresh water, the supply is limited.
17. Be careful of ENEM. Do not throw lighted cigarettes over board, use receptacles provided.

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g. Shoe Repair Shop
Building 215

h. Drycleaning
(1) Building 220
(2) Commercial dry cleaning available through the Officers Mess Annex, Building 257.
(3) Commercial dry cleaning service may be obtained in building 218.

i. Laundry Service
Laundry service is available:
(1) Through the Officers Mess Annex, Hostess House, Building 257.
(2) Building 216.
(3) Building 210.

3. Service Station
Building 142 (at West Gate, Fort Mason) gasoline and oil sales. No facilities for greasing or oil changes.

5. TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAM SERVICE.

a. Telegraph
Telegraph facilities are located in Building 202. For further information, see instruction in GTF Telephone Directory.

b. Telephone
Pay telephones are located in the Post Exchange, at the Officers Mess Annex, and at various other points on the post.

6. POSTAL FACILITIES
The Fort Mason Station, Branch of the San Francisco Post Office, is located in Building III. The Post Office is open for business as follows:
Week days (except Saturdays) 0800 to 1700
Saturdays 0900 to 1300
Sundays and holidays Closed

7. DISPENSARY
The dispensary is located in Building 240.

8. OFFICERS' MESS (see also Officers' Club) (see also Officers' Club Facilities.)

9. THEATRE

There is a glossary of ships terms "to help you prove that you are not a land lubber," (p. 10). At the end of the

booklet there are five Annex forms, including one for "Public Law 633" for duties, taxes, and customs limits and exemptions for household goods imported to the US, and certificate forms for Transportation of Dependents, Passenger Travel, Shipment of Baggage, and a memorandum for Responsibilities of Military Personnel Traveling Aboard Army Transports (dated June 11, 1947).

Lt. Col. Carl H. Elges, Jr. (1910-1994), Commander of the Army Travel Center in Manila, whose "Bon Voyage" foreword proceeds this guide, was awarded the Legion of Merit "for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services to the Government of the United States from August 1962 to August 1965" during the Vietnam War, in which he served as a Colonel.

A valuable and well-preserved booklet documenting post World War II procedures and transport operations.

Below left: Embarkation instructions, and at right, Army Memorandum dated '11 June 1947.'

