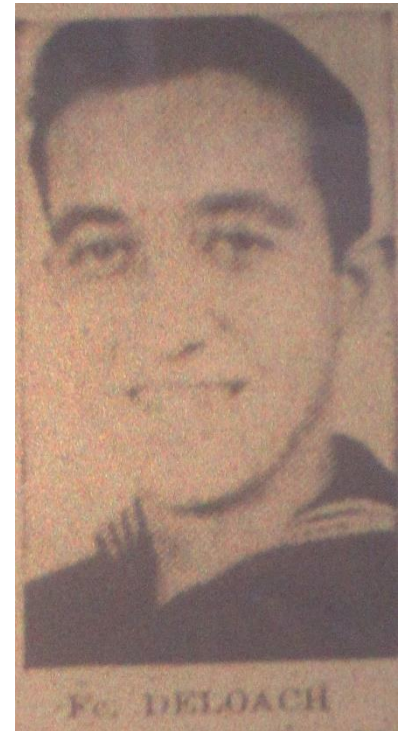


Thomas Edward DeLoach, Jr., T-45
19 December 1924 – 19 February 1985
(aged 60)



Gedunk Sailor,' 'Tin Can' Just Real Navy Talk

When a landlubber hears sailor talk about a "Gedunk," he may think it is sailor slanguage for "Dip-your-donut-in-your-coffee, bub!" or a salty version of "Giddap, Clementine!" But he was wrong, "Gedunk" or "wagon" is Navy slang for battleship, according to Thomas Edward DeLoach, Jr., fire controller 3-c. And "tin can" isn't spelled with ration points in a sailor's lexicon; it's a synonym for destroyer.

In the 26 months that the 20-year-old former Tech High student has been sailing the Pacific from the Aleutians to the Gilberts to the Marshalls, to the Philippines, he has acquired an extensive vocabulary of salty terms to pass along (after careful censoring) to his young bride.

While in Memphis on leave, he visited his parents, 1360 S. Lauderdale, and his wife's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Alexander, 732 E. Mallory. He is the nephew of Leslie Mason, district circulation manager of The Press-Scimitar.

Information from The Press-Scimitar, Wednesday, May 23, 1945.