

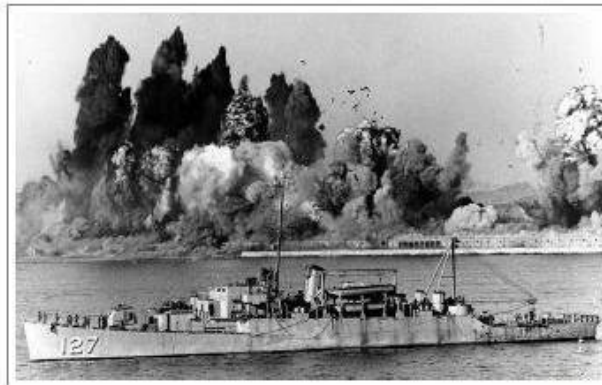
... Looking back ... Looking back ... Looking back ... Looking back ...

It's a man named **Fay Broughton Begor**. Begor was born in 1916 in Moriah, NY. In 1937, he enrolled at McGill University medical school. Two years later, Fay Begor met **Katherine Savage** of 130 Brock S., during a ski trip to St. Sauveur. She was the daughter of **John K. Savage**, General Superintendent for Quebec of Canadian Pacific Railways (CPR). Fay and Katherine were married in August, 1940 at St. Philip's Church. Their only child, **Anne Charlotte**, was born in 1941.

Begor received his M.D. degree in 1941, and, according to USS Begor Association historian **Gene Combs**, "He joined the U.S. Navy in hopes of going to sea, and becoming a part of the action". He was appointed a Lieutenant Junior Grade in the Medical Corps in July 1942, assigned to the Pacific. In September 1943, he was mortally wounded in battle during a naval landing operation at Lae, New Guinea. An account of that event, written by historian **Combs**, states:

"At 0705 on September 4, a little over half an hour after the first boat had stumped its nose on the beach, Japanese Mitsubishi attack planes and VAL dive bombers escorted by ZERO carrier fighters attacked the Seventh Amphibious Force.... Twenty Australian troops had been killed and just as many wounded. Eight American soldiers were wounded. Among them the Flotilla 7 Medical Officer, Doctor Fay Begor lay with both thighs shattered by shrapnel.

"Doctor Begor immediately turned to treat the



Brock Avenue S. and the USS Begor

What is the link between a house on Brock S. and a U.S. warship?



wounded and was courageously persisting in that urgent mission until three bombers released their bombs at 1,500 feet, bracketing the ship with near misses to port and starboard, but scoring a direct hit just forward of the pilot house blasting a seven foot hole in the deck."

Fay Begor died from his wounds on September 9, 1943. He was posthumously awarded the Navy Cross, the U.S. Navy's highest decoration, for his "extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty" and "courageous spirit of self-sacrifice".

In March 1944, Doctor



Begor was honoured by having the USS Begor (APD-127) named for him. His widow, Catherine, christened the ship in Bay City, Michigan.

In 1945 McGill University Principal **Dr. E. Cyril James** presented a bronze plaque to the ship in memory of Fay Begor, and in recognition of the 400 McGill graduates serving with the U.S. Forces.

The USS Begor saw service in World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. The ship was used to transport reconnaissance personnel and underwater demolition teams, in preparation for beach assaults. In 1962, the ship was retired and in 1975 she was scrapped.

Catherine Begor and daughter Anne continued to live at 130 Brock S. until 1951. Catherine died in 1999. **Anne Begor Lancashire** is Professor of English at the University of Toronto.

Thanks to **Anne Begor Lancashire** and USS Begor Association members **Gene Combs** and **Stuart Huntington** for their assistance in preparing this article.

from Harold Rosenberg