



USS *Poole* (DE-151)

Minor Butler Poole, born at Brandon, Miss., 2 February 1920, enlisted in the Navy 15 February 1938. Gunners Mate First Class Poole was posthumously awarded the Navy Cross for extraordinary heroism and courageous devotion to duty while in charge of the Forward Magazine Flooding Control Station aboard *Boise* during the Battle of Cape Esperance, Guadalcanal, on the night of 11-12 October 1942. He gave up his life in an attempt to reach the flooding panel through overpowering gas fumes, 12 October 1942.

DE-152; *Edsall* Class destroyer escort

Displacement 1,590 (f.)

Length: 306'0"

Beam: 36'10"

Draft: 12'3"

Top speed: 21 knots

Complement: 216

Armament: 3-3", 8-40mm, 2 depth charge tracks (stern); 1 Hedgehog; 8 depth charge projectors.

History:

Poole (DE-151) was laid down by the Consolidated Steel Co., Orange, Tex. 13

February 1943; launched 8 May 1943; sponsored by Mrs. Minor Herndon Poole, mother of Minor Butler Poole; and commissioned 29 September 1943, Comdr. R. D. Dean, USCG, in command.

Following shakedown off Bermuda, *Poole* took on coastwise escort duties, and toward the end of the year extended her escort services to transatlantic runs. She departed New York to escort a convoy to Casablanca, arriving 11 January 1944. Returning to New York 5 February, she shifted to the North Atlantic sea lanes and for the next 15 months escorted high speed convoys (tankers and transports) to ports in the United Kingdom and, after June 1944, on the European Continent.

On 4 June 1945, Escort Division 22, led by *Poole*, departed New York for the Pacific theater. Arriving at Pearl Harbor 14 July, she conducted patrols there for the remainder of the war. On 4 September she departed Pearl Harbor and proceeded to Saipan, thence to Honshu, where she joined the occupation forces.

After a month of occupation patrol duty off Wakayama, *Poole* was underway 29 October for San Diego, whence she steamed to the East Coast, reaching Charleston 10 December. Later shifted to Green Cove Springs, she decommissioned in January 1947 and entered the Atlantic Reserve Fleet where she remained until being sold for scrap in the 1970s.

Sources:

Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships, Vol. V, pp. 351.
