

Tug Tales #13 Jan 30, 2014 A DeLand Tug Engineer is Alive and Well in Costa Rica

Dan Friend <u>dfriend001@cfl.rr.com</u>

Once again the website has brought interesting results and a DeLand warboat update. I was contacted by Alejandro Esquivel Hernandez from down in Costa Rica. His father, Milton Esquivel, a native of Manhattan, New York City, was assigned to ST 845 as 2nd engineer from 6/15/1946 until 3/7/1947. He also served on ST 843 & ST 844 during this same period in Panama. I



had wondered where those boats went right at the end of WW2, and now we know: to the Panama Canal Zone!

Milton reports that the tug was assigned to the 160th Harbor Craft Company in the Panama Canal Zone at Fort Clayton, Balboa, near the end

ST 845 in her WW2

grey paint

of WW2. The captain's name at that time was Lipschultz. 87-year old Milton Esquivel livestoday in Heredia, Costa Rica, and is the only known living crew member of *any* DeLand WW2 built tug! Mr. Esquivel and his son were kind enough to send photos, and a copy of an Army letter thanking him for service on ST 843, 844 & 845 for my records. If you've been following along, you will remember that we already have a model of ST 845 built by an unknown person. Here's another photo of it; *along with one that Mr. Esquivel has made as well:*





Made by unknown person

Made by Milton Esquivel

Thanks for your service, Milton...Live Long and Prosper