

Featured Felines: Cats in Wartime photos – Sea (2021)

(page checked July 2026)

This is simply a page of images collected from various sources, but unfortunately for a number of them I have no details of what they show. They may not all be strictly wartime photos.



1 The caption I have is just 'HMS King George V' – so is this the WWI I battleship of that name, with cat Jimmy? In any case, a number of the sailors are watching the cat's antics with amusement! (IWM)



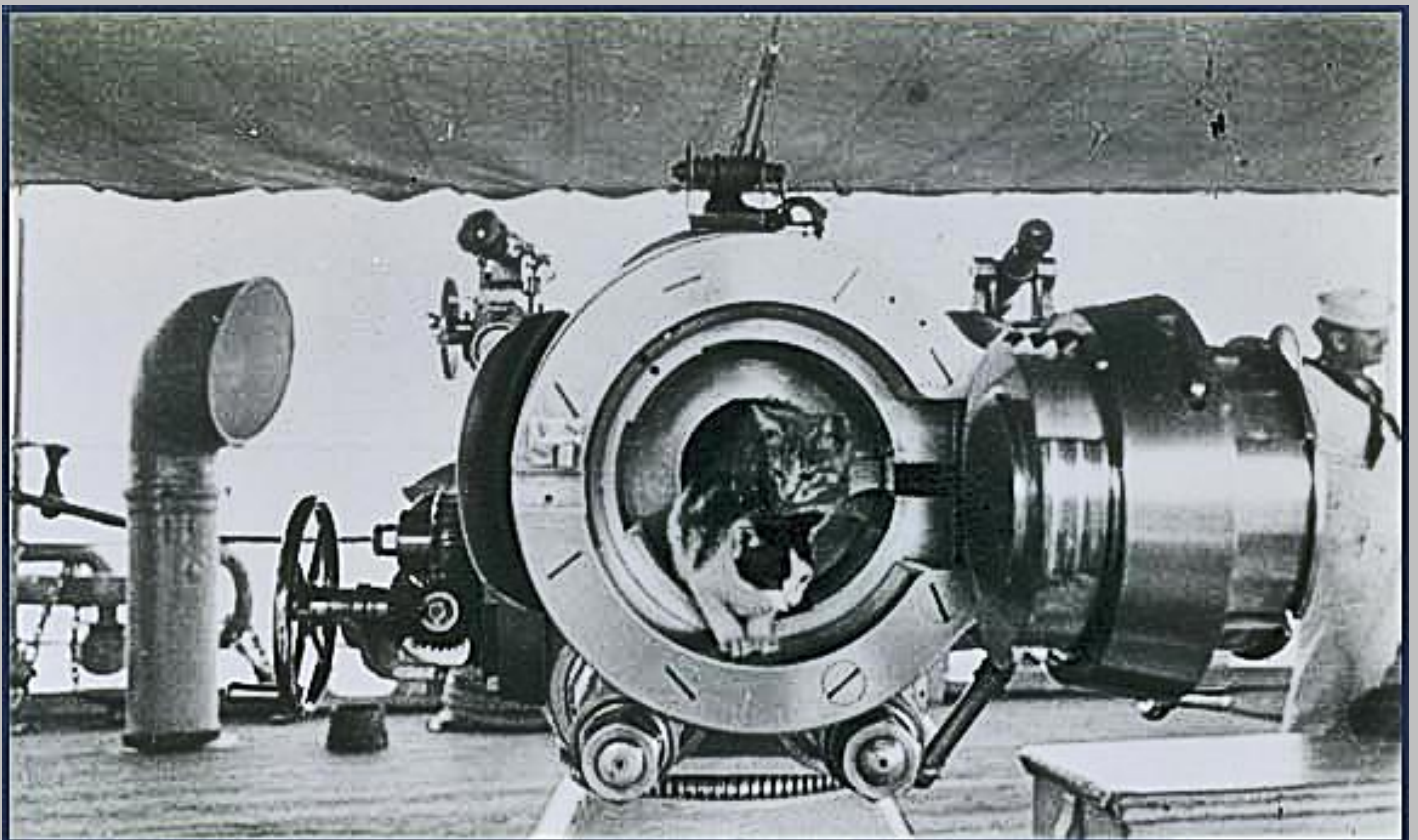
2 HMAS Melbourne, Australian light aircraft carrier, 1917



3



4

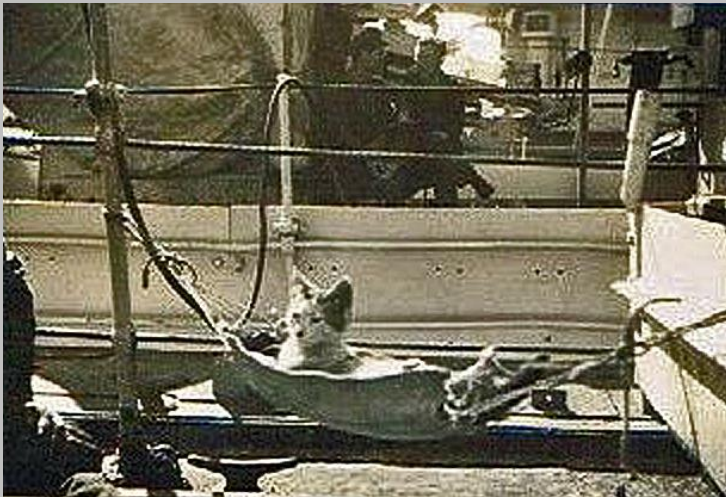


5 *Two cats pose in the breech of a 4-inch gun aboard an unidentified US ship*



6

USS Wyoming was a WW1 battleship launched in 1911, serving as a training ship during the 1930s and a gunnery ship during WW2. 'Six bells' probably refers to the system of bells sounded every half hour to mark the time during watches; six bells would be three-quarters of the way through a four-hour watch.



7 Unknown, but dates from the 1940s



8 Labelled as 'Peggy' of the **USS Constitution**, but it isn't clear which ship of that name



9 Kitten on **US Coastguard cutter** in Alaska



10 **LS Lawrence** with ship's mascot, destroyer **HMS Vanity**, Oct. 1940



11

Crew of monitor USS Lehigh on James River, Virginia - 1884 (during US civil war). Cat third from left. front row



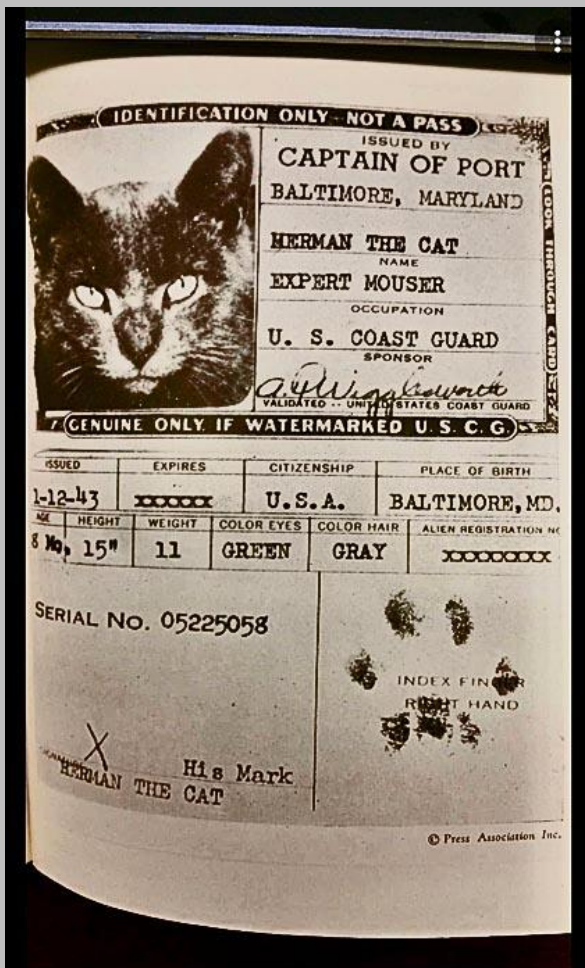
12 Norwegian sailors with kittens on board HMS Eskdale, February 1943



13 'Splinters', mascot of destroyer HMS Kelvin, September 1940



14 'Little Captain'



15 'Port precautions being what they are, even the cat must have his identification card, as this official credential – including paw-print – was issued for the pet of a Coast Guard unit at Baltimore.'



16 HMS Cornwall's cat, name unknown, Portsmouth dockyard, 1933

See [Featuring / War / Land & Air](#) for more details.



17 2nd Section Engineering Force, USS Florida, 1917-18, with cat



★
We've a sad tale to tell you.
H.M.S. Delhi has lost its cat.
Pet o' the ship and mascot was
Able-Seaman Pussy.
She died of natural causes,
And the Navy gave her a
naval funeral in the approved
fashion.
The sheet, weighted with lead
... the parade, the plank down
which the little body was sent
into the sea.
And you'll note naval honours
were paid—by the marine pre-
sented arms as the final com-
mittal was spoken ... and done.
★

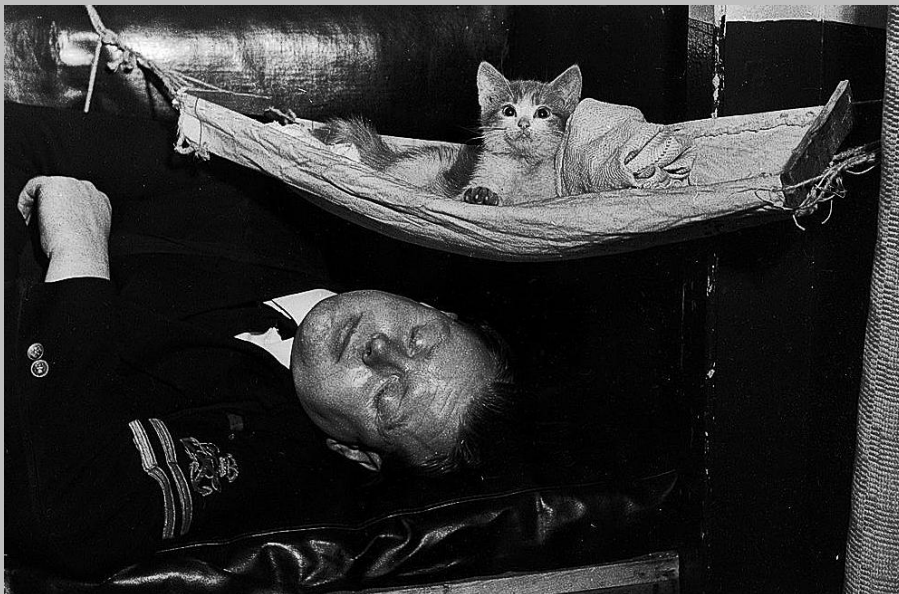
18 AB 'Pussy' of HMS Delhi, buried at sea, March 1940



19 'Mr Noble', warships cat said to have survived three sinkings (unverified, no details)



20 *This cat is said to have been the mascot of the Japanese WW2 battleship 'Yamato'*



21 *Crew member of battleship HMS Warspite asleep with the ship's mascot kitten in its hammock, September 1944*



22 *Sandy was mascot of a 'sea fort' in the Thames Estuary, October 1944*

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