

I'll tell you about this guy. Well, he made world history. You don't know who it is, do you. I'll throw this name at you and see how many people grin at me. Arturo Piazza.

Artie Piazza, as he was known, he was also called the Jabbering Jamaican. And he would! He was the only guy that could make those old stills from world war two or pre world war two produce like they should.

He was an Engineman Second and I kind of favored him cause he favored me till I got qualified. Well, we was having a captains inspection and Artie was showing off again. Actually, I had just qualified and he walked up there in his dress whites and gave me his dolphins.

Well the squadron commander aboard the tender down there watched that and then we paraded him. Or actually his group paraded us. And he was walking by there and he kept looking at Artie. And he says, "sailor " and old Artie come to attention. "Don't I know you from somewhere"? "Have we ever served together"? And he said, " Yes sir, Captain you killed my bird".

I don't know how these stories got connected together but I know Captain Fox knows Artie.

Artie bragged about tuning the carburators on PT-109. Y'all remember hearing about this? OK. Artie said he did this to the PT-109 and he did that to the PT-109, etc. The captain at the whitehouse was a submarine sailor and he got a hold of this and told President Kennedy. Guess what the president did? He sent him a book about serving on PT-109 as its skipper. He wrote in there that everything Artie claimed to do, the president agreed to. That floated around Key West for I don't know how long. I know after he ran out of money after giving me his dolphins he was trying to live out of the uh, what was the name of that bar right outside the gate? ( Gate Bar) Yea, the gate bar (everyone knows the Gate bar. Yea I replaced the plate glass window in it). But he's a character to remember, Arturo Piazza