

PENTAGON

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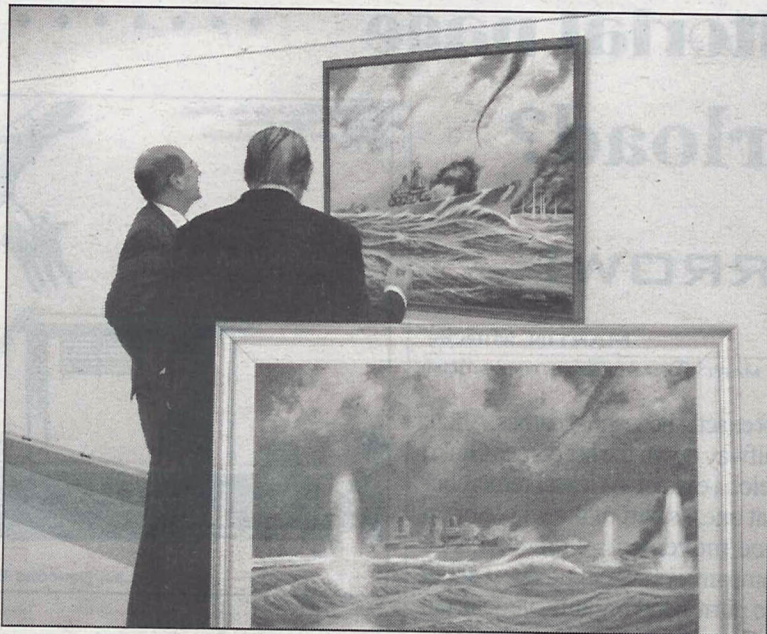
Lorenzo, "It's really a fortress now."

When asked how he felt walking the halls with military men and women from all the armed forces, Lorenzo stated: "I wanted to get back into the Navy. This place is just so full of U. S. history and it makes you feel a sense of pride."

In fact there were numerous diplomats in the same area as Lorenzo. While he was talking to the Secretary of the Navy, a group of diplomats from Egypt came by.

Born in Camden, N.J., an industrial city known for major building during World War II, Lorenzo has always had a place in his heart for anything on the sea. He helped build the first nuclear-powered ship, the *USS Savannah*, which was later given to the city of Camden to use as a museum. Lorenzo was so pleased with this gesture that he decided that at some time in his life he would donate a painting to the Pentagon.

Lorenzo served on a fleet tanker in both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans during the war.



PHOTOS BY SUZI HOSFELD

Secretary of the Navy Donald C. Winter, left, and Naples artist Larry Tofani, in deep discussion of his painting of the New Jersey.

Later, he worked as a staff artist at the *Philadelphia Inquirer* and at *TV Guide*. He also designed the Amtrak Passenger Car and a vehicle called the "Plane Mate," which transported passengers from the terminal to the plane. It was during this time in his life that he created some of his best-known paintings.

One of those paintings, *The Lone Eagle*, hangs in the New

Jersey home of Charles Lindbergh, the first man to fly across the Atlantic solo. According to Lorenzo, the painting is in the room from which Lindbergh's 20-month-old son was kidnapped in 1932. After 9/11, Lorenzo pulled out his long-retired brush and painted the Twin Towers. He hopes to donate this work to the Bush library when the current president leaves office.

Although vision problems have curtailed his painting, Lorenzo has not slowed down. He is busy with veterans' lunches and meetings, and donating items to our soldiers in Iraq.

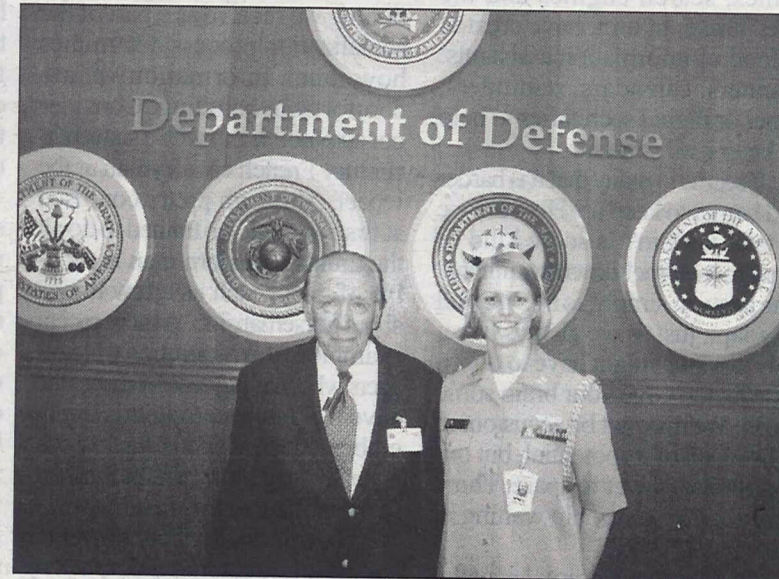
He notes: "Each year our veteran's meet-ups get smaller and smaller; there are not a lot of us left."

Posters of several of his paintings can be purchased at the Homer Helter World War II shop, and his work is on display at his gallery,



The USS New Jersey, as depicted by Larry Tofani.

Lorenzo Fine Art, located at 2147 Harland Run in Naples. He can be contacted directly at 434-9607.



Larry Tofani meets with Lt. Griffis from the US Navy in the Pentagon.