

During World War II, your travel4seniors.com editor and Navy shipmates had lunch in the Palace's beautiful Garden Court of the historic hotel. The bill for steak and drinks for a seaman earning \$55 a month in October 1944 was an expensive \$6. According to the today's luncheon menu, just a serving of endive and watercress salad costs \$15.

Second visit to the Palace: Following a year of living in a tent next to our outhouse with bucket shower in war-torn Manila, the Philippines. In October 1945, I was on my way home, WWII Navy service completed.

Before the train ride, I booked a room at the Palace, wanting a night in a linen-covered bed and soak in a real bathtub. I also needed to dine on anything but Spam in a real restaurant. The room rate was \$15, and the expensive dinner was \$7.

Recent visits to the Palace: Through the decades, I've been to the Palace for trade shows, business meetings and pleasure trips. Staying at the luxurious hotel is always a pleasure because of its downtown location, beautiful decor, immaculate service, great dining and comfortable rooms.

I recently marked the 70th anniversary of my first visit with another enjoyable experience at the Palace. Current room rates start at \$250 a night, and dinner with drink at the Palm Court was \$65. Considering the great memories, it was well worth returning to the beautiful hotel.

The Palace, member of Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc., 2 New Montgomery St., San Francisco CA 91405, www.sfpalace.com