

The JACKSTAFF News

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CNO ASKS U.S. BE PATIENT

Admiral Thomas H. Moorer, Chief of Naval Operations has asked the American people to be patient, not to prejudge, and to have full trust and confidence that the procedures used in developing the facts surrounding the piracy act against the USS PUEBLO are being carried out by experienced men of integrity who have only the welfare of the United States at heart.

In an addendum to a speech delivered before the American Bar Foundation in Chicago Jan. 25, Adm. Moorer said he was prepared to put the nature of the inquiry in proper perspective and, "hopefully, reassure the American people that the court of inquiry is being conducted in a straightforward, legal and objective manner."

First, he asked, "What is a court of inquiry?" He answered his own question by saying, "It is a fact finding body—that and nothing more. It is not a court-martial. Witnesses at a court of inquiry are not on trial. A court of inquiry cannot even prefer charges. It simply records the facts and makes recommendations to the convening authority—in this case the commander-in-chief of the Pacific Fleet. These recommendations may cover such things as operational procedures, material improvements, training of personnel, international law—and many other subjects—and, if warranted, the recommendation for further legal proceedings."

As to why the Navy was conducting a court of inquiry, Adm. Moorer said, "A ship has been lost. We always have a court of inquiry when this happens—whatever the cause."

The CNO said particular emphasis is being placed on protecting the rights of the individuals, and on lessons learned. These lessons will be of great assistance in the future, he said.

Concerning Commander Lloyd M. Bucher skipper of the Pueblo, Adm. Moorer said that "when the inquiry opened its initial session, the first witness was commander Bucher. He was given the legally required advice concerning his rights as a party to the inquiry. Counsel for the court made it clear that commander Bucher was not at that time suspected of having committed any offense under the Uniform Code of Military Justice."

Later, the Admiral said, when commander Bucher, in his testimony indicated that the North Koreans had boarded his ship, the counsel for the court—as required by the law—told Bucher it was possible that he had violated U.S. Navy regulations, Article 0730, which reads "The commanding officer shall not permit his command to be searched by any person representing a foreign state nor permit any of the personnel un-

der his command to be removed from the command by such persons, so long as he has the power to resist."

He (the counsel), Admiral Moorer continued, explained to Commander Bucher his right to testify no further and gave him the routine, required warning that, if he did so, the information could later be used against him.

Admiral Moorer said he would like to emphasize three points: the first: Such a warning was not unexpected by Commander Bucher or his counsel—here are the words of Commander Bucher's counsel addressed to the Counsel for the court: "We have discussed this matter with Commander Bucher in some detail. As you know, we had some preliminary conversations with you before this court of inquiry convened as to the procedures that would be followed and the manner by which Commander Bucher's story and the story of the USS PUEBLO could be presented to this court. We obviously anticipated the situation that we will ourselves in at the present moment. We have discussed this in detail with Commander Bucher."

"In view of your warning, Commander Bucher persists in his desire to fully and completely tell this court of inquiry the details of the 23rd of January and the events subsequent thereto. Based on that, Commander Bucher, with the court's permission, requests that he be permitted to testify, and complete this phase of the story. Commander Bucher, am I correctly reciting your wishes in this matter? And do I correctly recite that you have been adequately and fully apprised of all your legal rights which include the right to remain silent on this portion?" Commander Bucher answered in the affirmative, Admiral Moorer said.

"The second point I would like to emphasize," Admiral Moorer continued, "is that a court of inquiry must begin with a blank record. Newspaper accounts, rumors, second-hand reports or pre-judgments cannot be considered. The official record of PUEBLO's capture and the treatment of her crew must come from testimony and evidence presented to this court of inquiry. For the court, what has happened and will appear in public accounts simply does not exist."

The CNO put his third point in this manner: "Whether the Navy—or anyone in the Navy—was pleased or displeased with

Commander Bucher's testimony could have nothing whatever to do with that warning. I realize I am 'preaching to the choir' when I tell you (the Bar Association) that. However, the requirement to warn Commander Bucher is obviously not so well understood by some."

Admiral Moorer said: "Ladies and Gentlemen—I am deeply troubled—the Navy is deeply troubled—that what was a routine and totally correct legal procedure has been widely misinterpreted."

Continuing, Admiral Moorer noted that "as Chief of Naval Operations—I intend to ensure—and the court itself will ensure—that Commander Bucher's rights—as well as all others appearing before the court—are fully protected."

"Possibly," he said, "there will be similar warnings concerning self-incrimination as additional witnesses testify."

Kitty Hawk Cited

The Presidential Unit Citation, this country's highest decoration any armed forces unit may receive, was awarded January 9, to the attack aircraft carrier USS KITTY HAWK (CVA 63) in shipboard ceremonies at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Admiral John J. Hyland, Commander-in-Chief U.S. Pacific Fleet, in the name of former President Johnson, presented the PUC to Captain John F. Davis, commanding officer of KITTY HAWK.

With that award, the Pacific Fleet carrier became the first Navy ship to be so honored for duty in Vietnam. All of the ship's 4,800 crew men are authorized to wear the Presidential decoration.

Captain D.C. Davis, KITTY HAWK's Commanding officer during the period defined in the citation, was present for the ceremony. He is now on the staff of the Pacific Fleet Commander.

In his remarks, ADM Hyland said the ship is recognized in professional circles as having

been on Yankee Station during the toughest part of the war, and in the most heavily-defended area in the world.

The citation accompanying the award praised the ship's crew and her embarked Air Wing ELEVEN for ".....exceptional performance in staging air raids on North Vietnamese railroads, power plants and industrial centers between December 23, 1967 and June 1, 1968."

The ship's air wing launched 185 major strikes—150 of them against the northern sections of North Vietnam—and hit targets near Hanoi and Hai phong 65 times. Planes from the carrier flew more than 1,200 sorties against Communist forces during the Khe Sanh siege early last year.

When the USS ENTERPRISE, KITTY HAWK's relief ship during her third deployment to Southeast Asia, was diverted due to the PUEBLO incident, KITTY HAWK remained on Yankee Station for 61 consecutive days.

RADM House Receives Award



HONORED—Rear Admiral William H. House, Deputy Commander U.S. Naval Forces, Vietnam, receives the Distinguished Service Medal from Vice Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr., Commander U.S. Naval Forces, Vietnam, during ceremonies at the Navy headquarters in Saigon. RADM House received the award for "bearing the tre-

mendous burden of command responsibilities germane to directing aggressive naval operations against the enemy." The citation accompanying the award went to say in part, "Rear Admiral House brought forces to bear which successfully interdicted enemy attempts to infiltrate men, weapons, munitions and combat essential sup-

plies into South Vietnam." RADM House, who spent 14 months in Vietnam also received the National Order 5th Class and the Gallantry Cross with Palm Leaf from the Vietnamese Government in ceremonies at the Joint General Staff headquarters near Tan Son Nhut Air Base.

(Official U.S. Navy Photo)

Editorial

What Do You Know?

Members of the U.S. armed forces are the best fed, best dressed, highest paid and best equipped troops in the world—bar none! But, if you notice, there's one thing that isn't listed—how well do they know their country's history and system of Government?

This latter question is not aimed at any one in particular. It's just for those who are personally aware of how little knowledge they have of these two important areas.

Just for fun, ask yourself or the fellow next to you: "How many members are there in the U.S. Congress?" "How many U.S. Senators are there?" "Can you name 15 of them by State and party affiliation?" "How many U.S. Representatives are there?" "Who was the second President of the United States?" "Name the 37th President." This list goes on forever.

Every American should know his country's history and how his Government functions. It's an obligation if he or she is to participate in and enjoy a democratic society.

American history and Government go far beyond what you may have learned in high school and college. So, why not read up on these subjects? See what makes your country "tick".

As you read and study about your country and her leaders, you'll be surprised how much personal sacrifice and effort has been made to make American what she is.

Become part of the BIG team. Become a part of America's heritage. But first, start at the beginning. Learn to understand that America's greatness comes from her people—people like you who make up the best fed, best equipped, etc., troops in the world.

And, one more thing—just for fun—how many stanzas can you recite of our National Anthem? (AFPS)

Hubble Group Says Pro Pay Justified

(NAVNEWS)....This is the last in a five-part series of articles about the Hubbell Pay Plan, Vol. I: Active Duty Compensation.

Q. Will there still be in-grade pay increases under the Hubbell Pay Proposal?

A. Yes. The new salary system will still provide for pay increases on the basis of the member's longevity just as under the present system. The Hubbell proposal will add additional longevity increases beyond those of the present system and will provide for some increases even beyond the 30-years-of-service point. As a general principal, the proposed longevity increases are planned to more closely correspond to the normal advancement path of the average service member in each pay grade. This is being done in an attempt to ensure that promotion to the next higher rank or rate and will always result in a greater pay increase than remaining in the present pay grade until the next longevity step.

Q. Will those who now draw Proficiency Pay still be eligible for this special pay under the Hubbell system?

A. The Hubbell Study Group looked at all of the special pays presently authorized for payment to military personnel and concluded that many of them were justifiably retained under a salary system in order to: (1) meet difficult retention or manning problems; (2) secure necessary numbers of volunteers to perform special duties; or (3) compensate for particularly hard or dangerous conditions of service. Included in these categories as special pays which should be retained were: Proficiency Pay; Hazardous Duty Incentive Pays (except glider pay). Diving Pay, Special Pay

to Physicians, Dentists, and veterinarians; Sea and Certain Places Pay; and Hostile Fire Pay.

Q. Why is the normal "lump sum" reenlistment bonus being eliminated under the Hubbell system?

A. Under the present system of pay and allowances, the normal reenlistment bonus is payment in advance for services that will be performed during the entire period of the new enlistment. While this procedure is attractive from the viewpoint of putting a lump sum of money into the hands of the reenlistee, it has the major disadvantage of reducing the amount of pay he will receive each payday throughout the enlistment period. The Study Group felt that it would be more in keeping with the movement to the salary system to spread the normal reenlistment bonus out over the entire term of enlistment as part of the regular salary.

Q. If the normal reenlistment bonus will be eliminated, why will the Variable Reenlistment Bonus (VRB) be retained?

A. The Study Group decided that the VRB should be retained in order to supplement the salary system wherever retention problems might continue to be critical. The bonus will continue to be payable at the discretion of the Secretaries of the Services as either a lump sum or a stream of annual payments. While the new salary system is expected to alleviate many of the present retention problems, it is expected that some critical retention problems may continue to exist and the individual Services may wish to utilize the proven effectiveness of the VRB to overcome them.

Q. How will VRB amounts be computed under the salary system?

A. The VRB will be paid on a basis of one half of one month's salary for each year of enlistment or extension. Existing multiples one through four will be retained.

Q. There has been a lot of scuttlebutt going around about what will happen to the ex-

changes and commissaries if the Hubbell Pay Plan goes through. What is the real story?

A. At present the value of exchanges and commissaries to the individual member is primarily dependent upon a variety of personal characteristics and conditions of service such as family size, location of nearest facilities, and individual shopping preferences. All of these factors move us further from the desired concept of equal pay for equal work—one of the main objectives of the entire new pay study. In order to move the commissaries and exchanges out of the compensation picture, the Study Group has recommended that the Government terminate subsidies to their operation except in special circumstances such as facilities overseas or in remote locations in CONUS. The effect of this recommendation on exchange and commissary prices is extremely difficult to predict; however, exchange and commissary management personnel agree that if there is any rise in prices at all, it will be small and still permit their stores to offer a considerable savings over shopping in commercial retail facilities.

Q. Is it true that the Hubbell Plan has made recommendations which will affect our present dependents medical care benefits?

A. The only recommendation affecting dependents medical care is that the daily charge for inpatient care in military medical facilities be raised to \$5.00 for the first 10 days, after the first 10 days of hospitalization, the rate would revert to the present rate of \$1.75 per day. The rationale behind this recommendation is the fact that the present \$1.75 daily in-patient subsistence rate was established in 1948, and that costs of meals in the hospitals have risen well above this level in the intervening period. The reason for reverting to the present rate after the first 10 days is to prevent undue hardship to any member whose dependents are subject to a lengthy period of hospitalization.

You Are What You Say

By CDR W. Lee Jones, CHC

We are known by the words which we use. Some of us have a larger vocabulary than others do. The amount of education—formal or informal—that we have received is reflected by our choice of words. The use of big words when smaller ones would do just as well may reveal an inflated sense of one's importance or the putting on of a "show".

The use of profanity, along with the common obscenities, also tells much about the character of a person. Such expressions indicate something of his mental processes, carelessness, and lack of self-discipline. It may be that it is a poor background that is showing, or efforts are being made to win acceptance in a certain group. Repeated use of this kind of talk undoubtedly reveals a mental laziness. It requires effort to express ourselves using decent language.

While there may be cases when the use of strong language is justified, when it is used in practically every sentence, nothing is left in reserve for these rare cases.

It would be helpful to consider the real meaning of our verbal expressions. Do we real-

ly want to ask God to damn a person or a thing? If so, the expression is appropriate. If not, it is most out of place and speaks of a carelessness in our relationship to God. Are we calling reverently on Jesus Christ when we used his name? Or is it a reflection of our great irreverence? If we are not "religious" ourselves, do we have proper respect for the sensitivities of those who are?

Are our expressions senseless and ridiculous? Some of them appear to be, especially that favorite four letter word which used to have some rela-

tion to sex. As far as I can determine by listening to some relation to sex. As far as I can determine by listening to some conversations, that reference no longer applies. The meaning of the word must have changed, but what does it mean now? Nothing, probably. It is, however still offensive to many people. Habitual usage can be difficult to break in polite society.

Jesus taught that it is that which comes out of a man which defiles him.

Think about it! If needed, do something about it!

Concern Sparks Poem for Navymen

(NAVNEWS)....Mrs. Helen Kennedy, a bed-ridden woman in her early 60's with many problems of her own, has a deep and sincere concern for the welfare of all servicemen. About a year ago she wrote the following stirring poem for them in Vietnam. Of the poem she said, "There was so much I wanted to express. I have never felt that Navymen got as much credit for their service as Airmen and the foot soldiers. I hope it will be meaningful to the reader."

Almighty God,

Who set the boundaries for mighty waves and surging tide
Be with our men who ride
sea in ships in times like these
that try men's souls, anchor
them in Thee. Chart a safe
course for them, Dear Lord,
send them safely to home-
port again Loving Protector,
Hover o'er the mighty Jersey's
decks, as she sails South China
seas. Battle-starred veteran of
two bitter wars, resurrected
bastion of liberty—Place a tent
of Thy heavenly protection
'round about her. Bear we pray,
both ship and crew, safe upon
the "Everlasting arms." Our
Father,
Remember those who glide with-
in the teeming ocean's depths,
Shut in upon themselves, away
from sun, and wind; and sky;
O grant special portion of Thy
Love and Grace to meet the
Awesome pressures of the deep.
O Lord,
For those who launch their great
winged birds from spray-swept
decks, May guardian angels fly
beside them wing to wing—uphold-

ing them hold the ripcord
Lord, of plunging parachutes
and bear its precious cargo
gently earthward in the hollow
of Thy hand. Dear God,
For all of these we pray, keep
their bodies strong, Their minds
alert, their courage high, their
faith in Thee. Fill the home-
sick void in hearts torn from
loved ones with Thy dear self.
by very real, and near, and
dear to them. We thank you
Lord for brave men such as
these, who in time of need
Perform so splendidly. Be
merciful to them, protect them
Lord From bursting bombs,
speeding torpedo, and flaming

oil wave. Guide, guard, O bring
them safely to the arms of
those they love again. Mighty
Thou who hast placed a "mea-
sure of faith" in every heart,
Increase that faith, teach them
to lean, lean hard, on thee. And
may they feel a warm robe of
heaven-sent assurance, born of
The heartfelt prayer of family,
friends, and grateful country-
men.

— Helen D. Kennedy

The JACKSTAFF News

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A Look At Operation Valiant Hunt



SPARE MOMENTS....In the precious minutes before launch time, the Marines of Battalion Landing Team 2/26 aboard the USS OKINAWA (LPH-3), do what comes naturally, whether it be talking to a friend, catching a few winks, or just standing by.
(Official U.S. Navy Photo by ENS. David Flucht)



AND ONE MORE THING....Marine Private First Class Passmore and several of the other members of the Battalion Landing Team 2/26 rehash instructions for the final time before they are heloed inland.
(Official U.S. Navy Photo by J03 Cookie Barrett)



ALL ABOARD....Marines scurry to board a CH-34 helo of HMM-362 as Amphibious Operation Valiant Hunt swings into action in I Corps.
(Official U.S. Navy Photo by J03 Cookie Barrett)



LET'S MOVE IT!.....Marines from Battalion Landing Team 2/26, stationed aboard the USS OKINAWA (LPH-3), jump from their helicopter into water covered rice paddies and run for cover during Operation Valiant Hunt. (Official U.S. Navy Photo by ENS. David Flucht)



ANYONE HOME?.....During the operation Valiant Hunt Marines file by avacated grass hut as they emerge from rice paddies onto high ground.
(Official U.S. Navy Photo by ENS. David Flucht.-)



HOW MUCH FARTHER?Marines slog through fields of water, mud, and rice as they advance toward their next objectives as part of the cordon and search tactic employed during the recent Operation.
(Official U.S. Navy Photo by ENS. David Flucht)

TAX FACTS FOR 1968

(NAVNEWS)....The holidays are over and things are pretty much back to normal. With this aura of peace comes another problem, that old nemesis, income tax.

Tax time can pose a special problem for the military, but it need not be a burden if the serviceman takes the time to find out about the certain provisions that apply to him.

The first questions that come to mind is, who pays? Everybody who has earned over \$600 during the calendar year. This minimum income is upped to \$1200 for people 65 or over. There is no minimum age requirement, minors earning \$600 must also file.

Married couples have the option of filing jointly or se-

parately in all but eight states, which are community property states. If you and your wife live in a community property state, each is liable for a return in respect to your income. One half of your pay is considered to be your wife's income.

This also holds true for a military man married to a non-resident alien. In other words, if you as a serviceman claim a community property state as your legal residence, and are married to a foreign citizen who is living in another country one half of your pay is considered to be your wife's income. As long as your wife remains a non-resident alien, she is not required to file for her half of your pay. Instead, she files

a 1040NR showing no income and claims refund for one half of the taxes after marriage.

You would file a Form 1040 for all your pay during that year up to the time you were married and for one half of your pay from the date of your marriage. You would still claim your wife as an exemption, provided she has no other income from within the United States.

If a non-resident alien is married to a serviceman not residing in a community property state, she would file a return except when she has other

income from sources within the United States. He would file for his entire income and claim one exemption for his wife.

Riv Divs

112 and 131 Hold Med CAP

The village was quiet and nearly devoid of activity as the gunboats eased up to the muddy riverbank. A platoon of Army infantrymen scrambled off the armored troop carrier and quickly set up a cordon around the village. Several Navy men from the assault support patrol boat carefully lugged two heavy metal chests through the slick mud and up to one of the grass huts.

Another sweep and search mission? No, a Mobile Riverine MEDCAP.

Boats from River Divisions 112 and 131 provided the transportation, soldiers from the Ninth Infantry Division provided the security force, and River Assault Flotilla One, the Naval component of the joint Army Navy Mobile Riverine Force provided the doctors, dentists, and medical supplies.

Word of the visit spread quickly through the village, and no sooner had the "bac si" (doctors) set up their equipment in front of one of the village huts than they were surrounded by swarms of patients eager for medical attention.

RivFlotOne personnel periodically conduct these Medical Civic Action Programs. They journey into different villages throughout the Mekong Delta where their force is currently operating, setting up shop for a day and treating as many people as is possible.

The River Assault Flotilla One Psychological Operations team arranges the MEDCAPS and accompanies them into the field. They assist the doctors distribute newspapers, magazines, and Government of Vietnam information leaflets to the villagers, and play loudspeaker tapes of music and the latest news. They also donate soaps, canned goods, clothing, fishing and sewing gear, and household utensils to the village chief for distribution to the people.

"I guess you might say we show the flag and the faith," says Dr. Donald F. Hagen, the Medical Officer for River Assault Flotilla One.

"In addition to helping these people with much needed medical attention we're also effectively discrediting the VC propaganda. The Viet Cong tell the villagers that we eat babies. We come right into 'Charlie's front yard and show them that we save them."

Expanded Service For Vets

New legislation and expanded service to the largest veteran population in history highlighted a Veterans Administration year-end report on developments in the affairs of former armed forces personnel.

Legislation during 1968 was marked by major and new expanded veteran benefit laws passed in the second session of the 90th Congress. Among these laws were measures:

1- Raising income limitations for all pensioners and monthly payments for 1.2 million beneficiaries beginning Jan. 1.

2- Increasing disability compensation payments effective the first of the year for nearly two million service-connected disabled veterans, with those rated 100 per cent disabled receiving an increase from \$300 to \$400 in monthly compensation, and those rated 10 to 90 per cent receiving an eight per cent increase.

3- Hiking the VA home guaranty maximum from \$7,500 to \$12,500.

4- Liberalizing post-Korean G.I. Bill education and training benefits and, for the first time in history, granting the widows of those who died and the wives of veterans who are totally and permanently disabled as the result of military service up to 36 months of VA educational assistance. Regardless of the number of dependents, the maximum allowance payable to an eligible widow or wife is \$130 a month for fulltime institutional training.

Pertaining to the programs operated by VA, the year-end report summarized:

1- Battlefield briefing by VA representatives of 344,000 American servicemen in Vietnam on their veteran benefits, plus in-depth counseling interviews with 52,000 disabled servicemen in 176 U.S. military hospitals, and veteran benefit orientation of more than 500,000 servicemen at 300 separation points throughout the country.

2- Establishment, beginning last February, of U.S. Veteran Assistance centers in 21 major cities. Staffed by representatives of the VA Civil Service Commission, Department of Labor and other agencies, the USVACs offered one-stop

employment, education and other veteran benefit information, counseling and placement service to returning Vietnam veterans, particularly the educationally disadvantaged. More than 160,000 veterans were interviewed and offered assistance at these multi-agency centers and at 57 VA regional offices providing USVAC-type service in 1968.

3- Payment of \$4.5 billion in compensation and pension benefits to 4.6 million veterans and survivors.

4- Restructuring of the \$2 billion-a-year pension program for non-service-connected totally disabled veterans and widows who meet the income limitations.

5- Guaranteeing the seven million G.I. home loan, bringing to nearly \$72 billion the total value of these guaranteed VA loans since 1944. During this period, VA also has made more than 293,000 direct loans with a face value of about \$2.8 billion.

6- Retention in force of more than four million VA administered government life insurance policies by WWI, WWII and Korean conflict veterans. In addition, approximately 3.7 million G.I.'s held more than \$36 billion worth of Servicemen's Group Life Insurance policies supervised by VA.

7- Entrance or continuance in Post Korean G.I. Bill education and training of nearly 800,000 veterans and servicemen who received \$575 million in educational assistance allowances from VA. Additionally, 17,000 disabled veterans underwent vocational rehabilitation training. Approximately 42,000 sons and daughters of veterans who died or who are permanently and totally disabled as the result of service receive VA educational benefits under the War Orphans Act.

New Medal Authorized

In one of his last acts in office, President Johnson signed an Executive Order Jan. 16 authorizing a new Medal for those who have distinguished themselves by outstanding meritorious achievements or service.

Designated as the Meritorious Service Medal, it would rank between the Legion of Merit and the Service Commendation Medal, as a non-combat award.

A White House statement said the need for the MSM has become apparent within the military services in the few years.



REPEAT AFTER ME....At ceremonies aboard a River Patrol Boat (PBR) at Nha Be, Lt C.P. METZIER, USN, (left), Commander River Division 594 reenlists ABF1 Anthony G. BOYLE, USN, (right). ABF1 BOYLE was River Division 594's first reenlistee since the division formed in late October.

DOD SEEKS MINORITY YOUTH GROUPS FOR ACADEMIES

The Defense Department is seeking more qualified Negro, Puerto-Rican, Mexican-American and other minority group youths to apply for admission to service academies.

The number of minority group youth in the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N.Y., the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD., and the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colo., has quadrupled since 1963, the Defense Department said in a report on minority youth recruiting.

That year, the Defense Department said, minority group enrollment totaled 29; today it is 116.

In a letter to educators throughout the United States Oct. 23, L. Howard Bennett, Director for Civil Rights in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (M&RA), requested their assistance and cooperation in the Defense Department's effort to identify, stimulate and encourage young men to apply for the Service academies. The letter called on the educators to submit by Dec. 1, 1969 the names of all qualified students for July, 1969 enrollment at the Academies.

The Defense Department said that the time limit has been extended to Jan. 10, 1969.

Eleventh and Twelfth grade students are being looked for as prospective candidates for classes entering July, 1970 and July 1969 respectively.

Educators were asked by Mr. Bennett to screen, select and forward to the Department of Defense the names of at least six Negro or other minority group youths of high scholastic achievement, excellent health and character and indicated leadership potential.

His letter also urged all qualified youths to seek admission and noted "We are especially interested, however, in having Negro, Puerto-rican, Mexican-American and other minority group youth know that these career opportunities are open to them...."

Mr. Bennett indicated that a factor contributing to the small number of minority group youths in the academies today stems from their not being aware that these opportunities are open to them and that the barriers based on race, creed, color, or national origin do not exist at these institutions or in the

professional military careers that follow.

Included with Mr. Bennett's letter was a "Memorandum to Educators" signed by Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul H. Nitze directing attentions to equal opportunities for qualified youths to attend the Service academies. Mr. Nitze made clear enrollment opportunities, Service career benefits, and procedures for enrollment.

Generally, students who desire to enter an Academy when they are graduated from high school should make application late in the Spring of their junior year, and graduation seniors who have not previously applied should do so early in the Fall of their senior year.

The Defense Department also noted that applications should be made at least eight months prior to the time of anticipated enrollment. In addition, the application should write to each of his United States Senators and his U.S. Representatives if a Congressional nomination is sought. If he is eligible to seek a nomination from another source as described in the Academy catalogues, he should write to the Registrar or Dean of Admission.

Preparatory schools are operated by each of the Services where selected enlisted members of the Armed Services are assigned to improve their scholastic proficiency, prepare for Academy entrance examinations and enhance the likelihood of their success at the Service academies.

It was explained that high school seniors desiring to attend the Academies and become officers, but who do not have the high scholastic qualifications required, may, if otherwise qualified, enlist in a service of their choice and apply to attend one of the preparatory schools.

Specific requirements for attendance are outlined in the preparatory schools' catalogues and Service notices.



JACKSTAFF "Co"



I SEE SOMETHING—Lovely Cristina Ferrare seems to see something on the horizon. I wonder if it could be a ship coming in. (photo Courtesy of MGM Studios)

IRON MEN

Story and Photos by PHC A. Smith

He lives in an atmosphere of grease, red-lead, rust, and heat; sweating out the next mail call, and marking off days on a well worn calendar. His equipment breaks down, spare parts seem never to arrive, and he fights an ungracious battle against rust....and loneliness.

Near the end of each "at sea" period both his temper and water supply run short. But, don't call his ship, his buddies, or his skippers a dirty name, 'cause he'll put a hairy set of knuckles right between your "running lights."

"Wooden ships" are gone, but there's a whole crew of "iron men" aboard the USS MATTAPONI a 26-year-old fleet oil tanker.

In his own way, each crewman aboard the MATTAPONI is fighting the war in Vietnam. There's not much publicity in what he does....little glory but other ships of the U.S. Seventh Fleet couldn't operate without him. An army may travel on it's stomach, but fi-

ghting ships require fuel...fuel the vital source of power to propel the ships, and generate electricity to point the guns.

The sailor aboard the MATTAPONI is safe from mortar attack and sniper fire, but he is not immune to other, less dramatic, ravages of war: boredom, fatigue, close quarters, and hard physical labor.

Some of his shipmates wear horned-rimmed glasses, and talk of Bethoven and Plato. But, don't be fooled by outward appearances.

They're salty and as knowledgeable of the sea as any of their square-rigged ancestors. And if one of these sailors has a neck, thick as the mainmast, and a back strong as raw whiskey, don't be deceived there

either. He's likely working towards his Bachelors Degree through USAFI correspondence courses.

Marlinspike seamanship and down to earth, bailing-wire-engineering, are vital skills mastered by each man aboard the MATTAPONI.

Scouring pots and pans, or staring at engine room gauges, each man is equally important. Without each of them the MATTAPONI would be useless.

Collectively these men ARE the ship. As a team they deliver the needed fuel. Together, with other men on other ships, and in other armed services, they are fighting the war and winning....each in his own way. They are proud...



RUST FIGHTER — The unromantic side of war is well illustrated by these sailors removing rust and paint from the MATTAPONI.

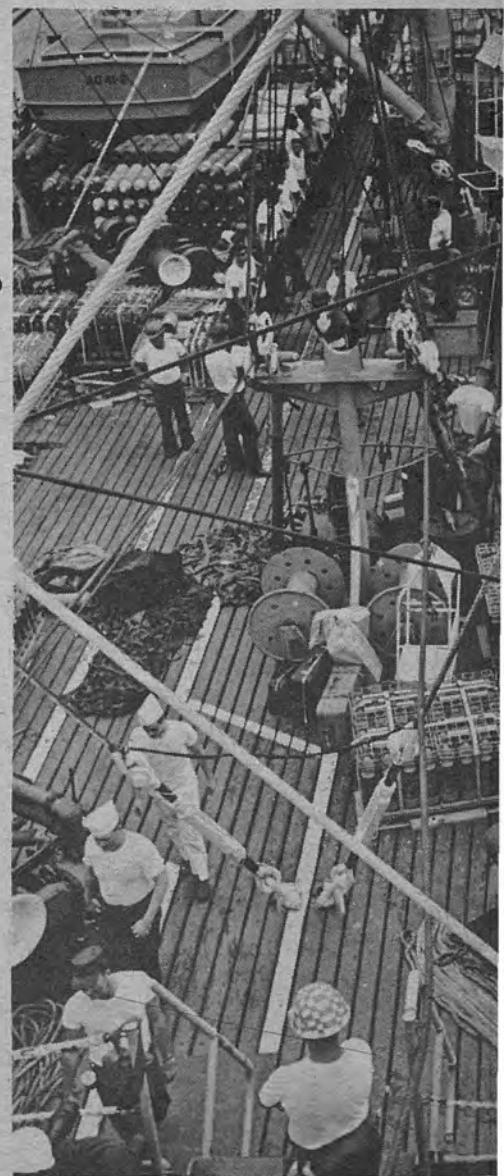


CALLUS LINE — All hands man the highline aboard the oiler MATTAPONI during underway transfers of men and supplies to Seventh

Fleet Ships off Vietnam.



ALOFT -- Sailors aboard the Mattaponi must "know the ropes" as they go aloft to grease the "running rigging".



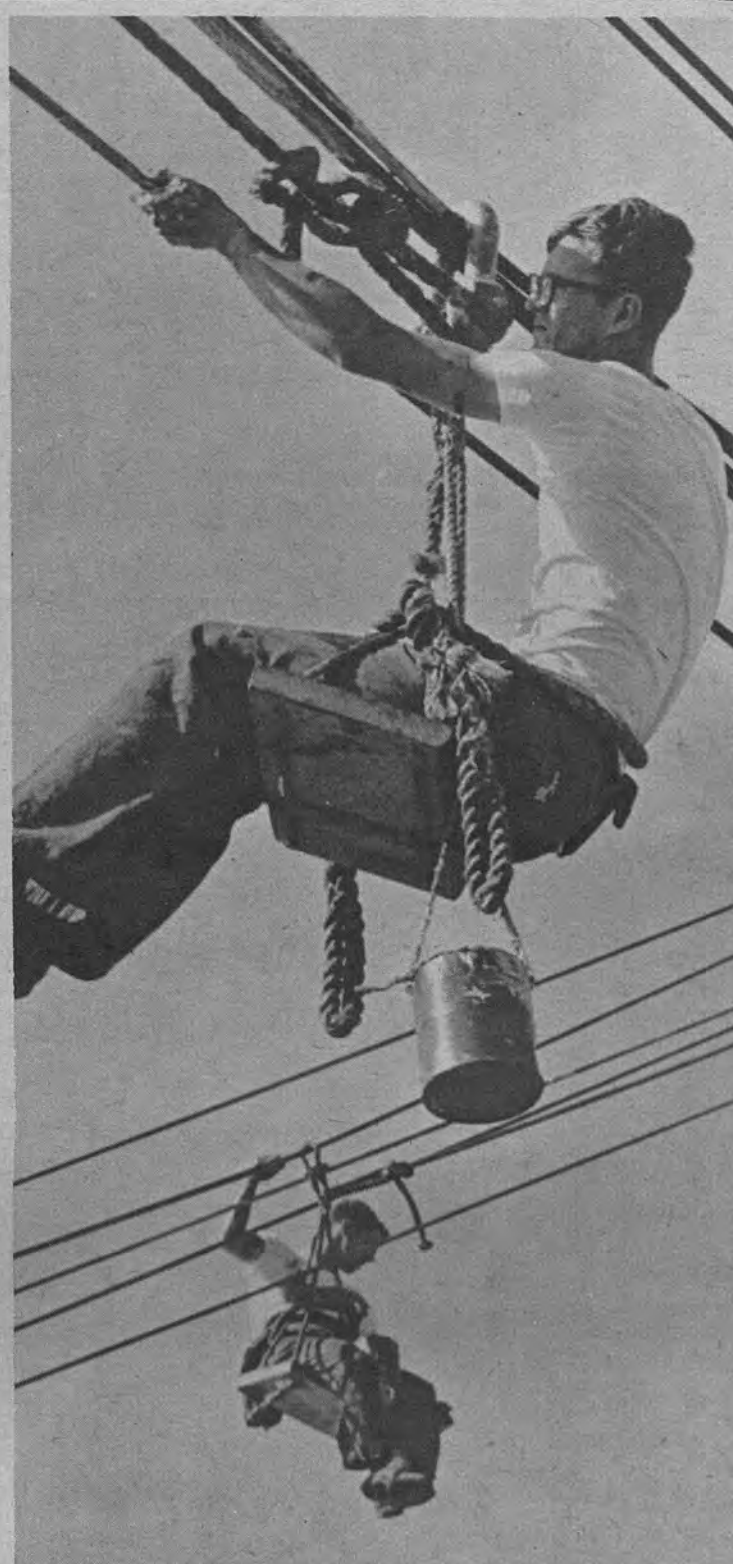
CARGO DECK — Cluttered with sailor is the main working area aboard the MAT



THIRSTY ONE — Captain C.E. Hathaway, commanding officer of the Seventh Fleet oiler MATTAPONI, talks by phone to the skipper of the coastal minesweeper Warbler. The Warbler depends upon the services of fleet oilers for fuel and water in order to stay at sea for long periods. Both ships are with the Seventh Fleet off Vietnam.



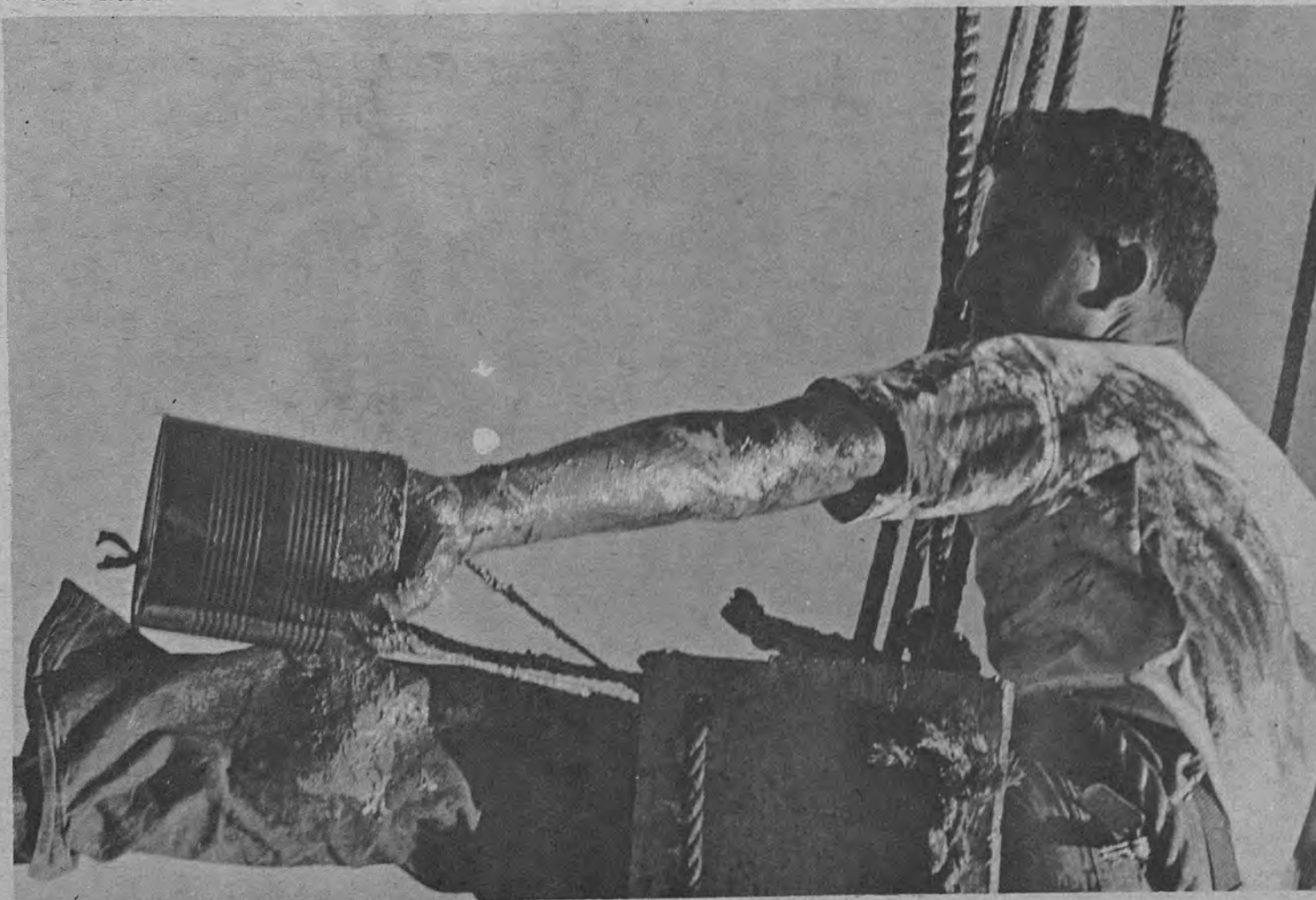
ALONGSIDE — The foamy sea rushes between the Seventh Fleet destroyer and the oiler MATTAPONI. The MATTAPONI provides fuel and oil for ships operating with the Seventh Fleet off the coast of South Vietnam.



ALOFT --- A salty sailor, bos'n chair, bucket of grease, and hard muscle are required to maintain the "running rigging" of the Seventh Fleet oiler MATTAPONI.



rs, winches, and cargo, this wooden deck
TAPONI.



DIRTY JOB --- Preventive maintenance is an endless chore. This sailor aboard the Seventh Fleet oiler MATTAPONI, is greasing

the "running rigging", and himself.



Behind the Scenes

by Dick Morris

"A STAR CAGER"

Ken Turja one of the kingpins assigned to NSA's Special Services has an outstanding athletic background that he can be proud of....At the age of fourteen, Turja pulled up stakes from his native Ohio and reestablished his resident in Gainesville, Florida....In the next few years the rangy lad made basketball history at P.K. Yonge High School in Gainesville....As a sophomore he was the first player to represent the varsity team in the history of the school....His team posted a record of 24-wins as against 3-losses but lost their bid in the semi-finals of the Florida High Schools State Championship Tournament held at the University of Florida's gym....Also while attending D.K. Yonge High School the transplanted Ohio teenager was named All-Conference guard, All-Area and All-Group, holding the record for field goals percentage....In his junior year he averaged 68 percent, netting 16-points a game.

"ENTERS JUNIOR COLLEGE"

In 1963 the six foot two-inch Turja enrolled at Centra Florida Junior College in Ocala, where he started in basketball and golf....The Florida Junior College was rated number one in basketball's junior circuit....On the offense the team averaged 91-points a game with Turja netting 20-points a game....In 1966 he entered the University of Florida and played basketball for one semester holding down a guard position for the Gators....Also while attending the University of Florida he assisted coaching high school basketball at his old Alma Mater P.K. Yonge high school....Upon his graduation from the University of Florida in 1966, he became a wanderer, packing his bag and heading across the pond to Europe....While in Europe he had the opportunity to travel to Innsbruck, Austria where he played in the Innsbruck Igls Country Club's golf tourney, posting a 76 score giving him the runner-up trophy....The 24-year-old Turja will be discharged from the Navy in 1970 and now has his sights set on residing in Hong Kong where he is hoping to go into the teaching field.

"ARMY CARD BIG HIT"

From all reports crossing this desk the first boxing smoker of the U.S. Headquarters Area Comm and's Special Services held recently at Tan Son Nhut was a big hit among the roaring spectators....The six bouts of three two-minute rounds each were fought for the most part by men with little or no previous ring experience....They came from the various Army commands and when the smoker ended their commands were proud of their mittmen.

"TI TI MAIL BAG"

It may be only the summer heat effecting on readership, but this desk must acknowledge that our mail bag has been "ti ti" for the past week.. The first letter we received from one of our readers asks what college football player was selected "Player of the Year" in 1962....Ernie Davis of Syracuse or Navy's Joe Bellino?....Neither one....In 1962 Terry Baker, quarterback for Oregon State was named "Player of the Year"....In what year did the Cadets of West Point began their long string of victories," asks another reader....In 1944 they began, and their reign of supremacy lasted until 1950....Glen Davis was the halfback and Felix "Doc" Blanchard held down the fullback post.... They both carried Army to national honors for three seasons and were named All-Americans in '44 '45 and '46....In conversation over a beer at the Nha Be club one night last week I was asked whether former Middleweight Champ Terry Downes ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces....The answer was yes with a capital "Y"..... Downes served in the United States Marines, where he held the All-Marine middleweight boxing title.... He was trained under the watchful eye of Sgt Frank Vieth, a personal friend of this scribe....Downes returned to England, his home, where in 1961-1962 he reigned as Middleweight Champ of the world, recognized by New York, Massachusetts and Europe.

PATTERSON DOUBLE CHAMP

The last letter out of the sack comes from a backer of former world Heavyweight Champ Floyd Patterson...."When did Floyd Patterson win the Championship and who did he defeat"....After defending his title six times, Rocky Marciano announced his retirement from the ring on April 27, 1956....The following November Patterson became the heavyweight king by knocking out Archie Moore in five rounds....Patterson then lost the title to Ingemar Johansson in a third round knockout on June 26, 1956....On June 20, 1960, Patterson flattened Johansson in the fifth round to become the first man in boxing history to regain the heavyweight crown....Patterson's second reign was terminated by Sonny Liston who scored a 2-minute, 6-second, first round KO....Well readers the time has come to seal the empty mail bag....see you all at your favourite news stand.

Call To "Flight Quarters" Means

Business As Usual On Tripoli

It's still dark on the flight deck of the USS TRIPOLI (LPH-10), a ship of the Seventh Fleet Amphibious Force, as the men begin to arrive for the start of a full day of flight operations.

Aircraft must be spotted, fuel lines checked and crash equipment tested. Much has to be done before the aircraft are ready to go.

The men in Primary Flight Control, high above the flight deck, are busy checking the many radios and emergency communications systems that are available.

The yellow shirted ISE's (Landing Signal Enlisted) have the blue shirted aircraft handlers busy spotting the first launch. Purple shirted fuel crews are busy refueling or "topping off" all the aircraft that will

be used for the operation.

Below decks, the Marines of Battalion Landing Team 3/26 are getting ready for their part in the upcoming assault.

As launch time draws near, the word is passed to start all engines and engage rotors. The final tests are made before loading troops and launching to the beach.

All is ready! The Marines are loaded; The Flight Deck Officer gives the signal; and the ISE sends the first wave of "birds" on its way to the beach.

Once the men are ashore they will depend on the carrier for all supplies and replacements. The wounded will be brought back to the ship for treatment within a matter of minutes after being "hit".

When TRIPOLI has medical evacuation standby, she will have spot two helicopters, fitted out with special medical equipment on deck to be ready for immediate launch if the call comes in.

It is a dreaded call, but when "Med Evac Inbound" is passed, the flight deck crews, stretcher bearers and corpsmen come running to get the man to sick bay for treatment.

After all the aircraft are back on board, the flight deck crew will have to respot the helicopters to get ready for the morning launches. The cycle never ends.



JACKSTAFF DIARY

Ancient Drawings on stone and bone prove that horse racing is at least 3000 years old, but thoroughbred racing is a modern development.

Practically every thoroughbred in training today traces its registered ancestry back to one or more of three sires that arrived in England about 1728 from the Near East and became known, from the names of their owners, as the Byerly Turk, the Darley Arabian and the Godolphin Arabian. The Jockey Club (English) was founded at Newmarket in 1750 or 1751 and became the custodian of the Stud Book as well as the court of last resort in deciding turf affairs.

There was horse racing in the United States before the Revolution but the great lift to the breeding industry came with the importation in 1798, by Colonel John Hoomes of Virginia, of the winner of the Epsom Derby.

From 1800 to the time of the Civil War there were race courses and breeding establishments plentifully scattered through Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky and Louisiana. In fact, thoroughbred racing was largely a Southern sport and that was one reason why the Confederacy had such an excellent cavalry in the Civil War.

A century ago crack horses were matched in four-mile races that were run in heats, best two out of three. The oldest stake event in North America is the Queen's Plate, a Canadian fixture that was first run in the Province of Quebec in 1836. The oldest stake event in the United States is the Travers, which was first run at Saratoga in 1864. The gambling that goes with horse racing is high.

In 1894 the Jockey Club was formed, it was composed of about sixty members chosen from the aristocracy of the turf. It was all powerful in racing regulations until the State Racing Commissions came into being, as a result of mutual betting and the great revenues that came with the tax on the daily betting.

"LAWN TENNIS"

Lawn Tennis is a comparatively modern modification of the ancient game of court tennis. Major Walter Clopton Wingfield thought that something like court tennis might be played outdoors on lawns and in December, 1873, in Wales, he introduced his new game under the name of Sphairistike. The game was a success and spread rapidly, but the name was a total failure and almost immediately disappeared when all the players and spectators began to refer to the new game as "lawn tennis".

In the early part of 1847 a young lady named Mary Ewing Outerbridge returned from Bermuda to New York, bringing with her the implements and the necessary equipment of the new game that she had obtained from a British Army supply store in Bermuda. Miss Outerbridge and friends played the first game of lawn tennis in the United States on the grounds of the State Island Cricket and Baseball Club in the spring of 1847.

For a few years the new game went along in haphazard fashion under varying rules. Tennis balls were of no standard size or texture. The nets were set at different heights up to 5 feet on the side and 4 feet in the middle. Some courts were marked out in hour-glass shape, narrow in the middle and wide at both ends, but about 1880 standard measurements for the court and standard equipment within the definite limits became the rule.

In 1881 the United States Lawn Tennis Association was formed and conducted the first national championship at Newport, Rhode Island. The international matches for the Davis Cup began with a series between the British and United States players on the courts of the Longwood Cricket Club, Chestnut Hill, Mass., in 1900 with the home players winning.

New Delta Champ



ionship has been short lived. On February 13, we received a new entry and Champion.

EN3 Kenneth L. Spurr of PBR Mobile Base II is the new "Delta Champ" after catching a prize-winner of 37 inches. In response to J03 Bakers challenge Mobile Base II held a two week tournament and gave prizes in three categories, the largest, smallest and the most.

SK3 Gary L. Smith took the title of "Champion Bait Catcher" with a two and-a-half inch. SN John S. Butler caught a total of 119 fish to take the quantity prize.

We hope this doesn't discourage anyone from trying to win the Champ title. After all, YOU MAY TOP THIS.

NEW DELTA CHAMP--In the preceding issue of the "JACKSTAFF" we announced the defeat of EM3 Robert L. Kress and JO-3 John R. Baker in the "Mekong Delta Fishing Contest" by SFP2 Don Walters. We proclaimed Walters the new champ, but also, his champ-





ANOTHER NEW FEATURE — One of the many new improvements made during the last six months at the Annapolis is a new and spotless snackbar. The snackbar as well as the ships store is maintained by PACEX.

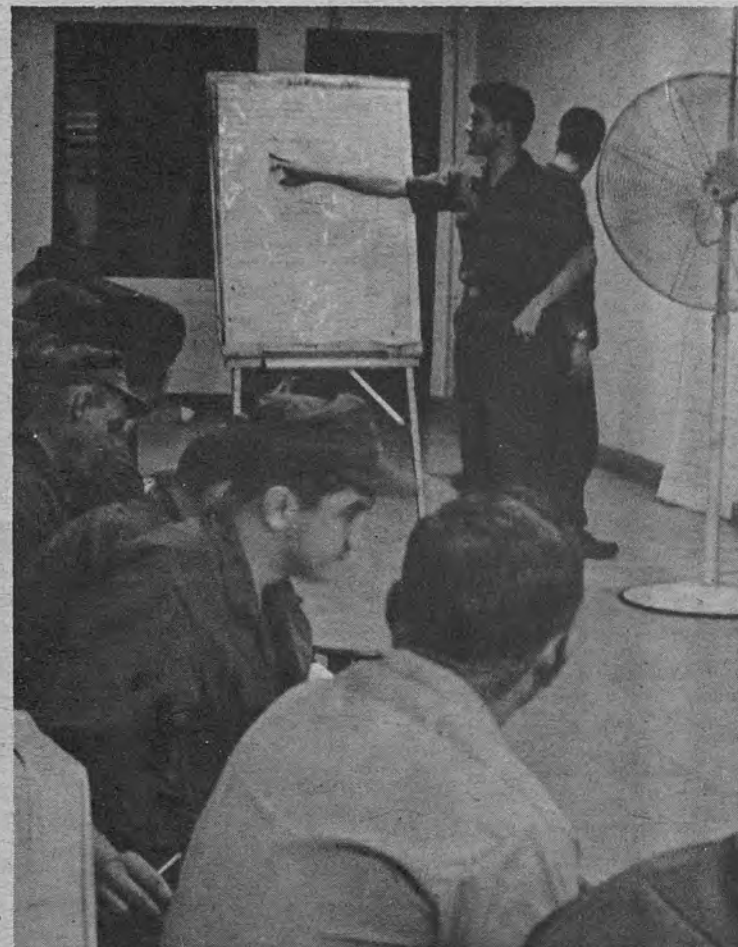
SPOTLIGHT The ANNAPOLIS



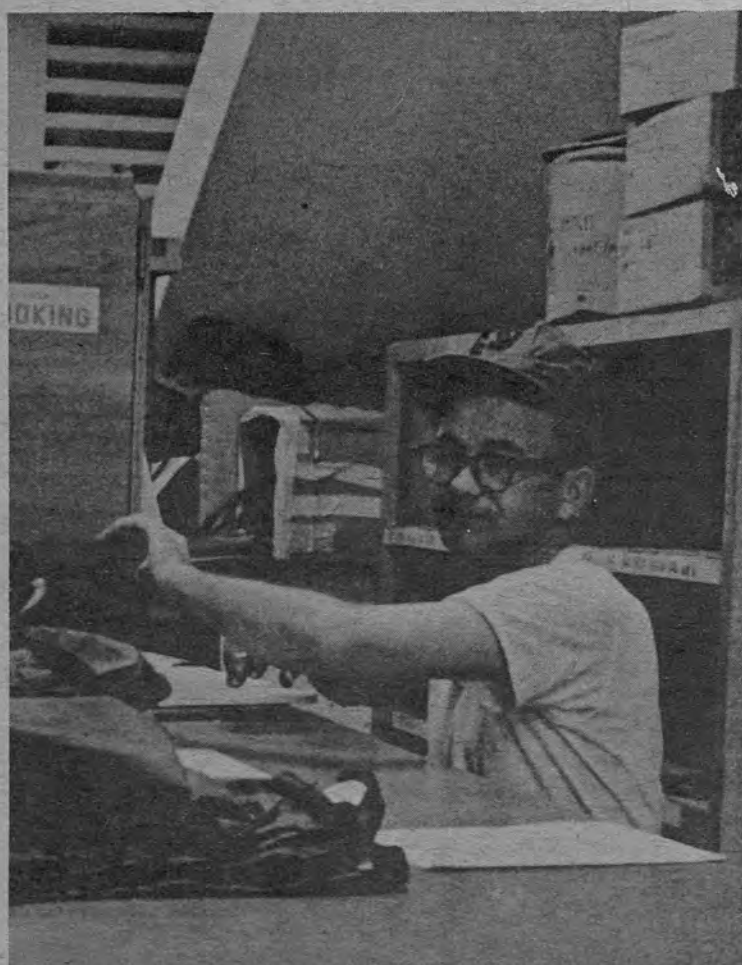
TIGHT SECURITY -- SN I.E. Paradeza mans one of the four outside security watches. These posts are manned twenty four hours a day.

By PH2 M.O. Newman

*up this street
I stayed here
street
morning
box
last June
for overnight*



BRIEFING ON VIETNAM -- PN3 B. McClure assists new men in country at filling out required forms. McClure and 13 other Navymen under the command of Lt(jg) Peter MacDonald man the Annapolis 'BEQ BOQ.



NEW IN COUNTRY? -- One stop incoming personnel will make before leaving the Annapolis is the Field Gear Issue. SK1 L.W. Martin issues boots and greens.



BAG AND BAGGAGE --- Men wait with their gear for transportation to duty stations throughout the II, III, IV Corps Tactical Zone of South Vietnam. About 350 to 500 men per week pass through the Annapolis.

LBJ Cites Seal Team

Former President Johnson awarded the Presidential Unit Citation to a unit of the U.S. Navy's SEAL (sea, air and land) forces in ceremonies at the White House at 12:30 p.m. January 14.

The former President read to 20 members of SEAL Team One the citation defining their extraordinary heroism in action against the Viet Cong in the Republic of Vietnam, from July 16, 1966, to August 31, 1967.

The 20 officers and men representing the team's lineup of crewmen eligible for the award were flown to Washington from their home port San Diego, California. SEAL Team One, with the new personnel, is still deployed in Vietnam.

SEAL Team One was credited with carrying out "operations in treacherous and almost impenetrable mangrove swamps against overwhelming odds by maintaining an aggressive operating schedule, gathering intelligence data and interdicting Viet Cong operations."

The President citation further described how a six-man SEAL contingent ambushed one junk and two sampans, accounting for seven VC dead and the capture of valuable intelligence information. During this attack, the citation added, the group remained exposed to enemy gunfire, was waist-deep in mud and water in order to obtain clear fields of fire.

As a result of SEAL Team One's efforts during the period mentioned in the citation it either captured or destroyed over 200 tons of enemy rice, killed 107 VC (with an additional 57 probable kills), captured or detained over 100 VC, destroyed 87 sampans, 9 junks and 217 huts. The team also destroyed or rendered harmless enemy booby traps, bunkers or installations in the conduct of its operations.

Project Jenny Start Third Year in Vietnam

A small detachment of the Navy's Oceanographic Development Squadron Eight (VXN 8), which has played a big role in the Vietnamese people's everyday life celebrated its third anniversary at Tan Son Nhut Air Base in Saigon, January 21.

It was three years ago that date that the Vietnamese people for the first time witnessed the "miracle" of television through the facilities of three specially configured Navy NC 121 "Blue Eagle" Super Constellations. Flying high above South Vietnam they broadcast television programs in Vietnamese and English to the local populace allied troops below.

Since its first broadcast of speeches by then Premier Ky, Ambassador Lodge and General Westmoreland, the "Blue Eagles" TV Network has compiled more than 7,400 hours of television and radio broadcasting, while logging over 11,400 hours of accident-free flying. "Project Jenny," as the operation is called, actually began regular programming on February 7, 1966, with one hour of Vietnamese programs on Channel 9 and three hours of American programs on Channel 11.

To insure that a large number of people could view the

programs, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) airlifted 500 TV sets South Vietnam. These sets were installed in public squares, store windows or other areas where large numbers of people could watch them.

The Viet Cong either disliked the programming, or, more likely, the bad effect it was having on their efforts to win the Vietnamese people away from their government. On April 12, 1966, the VC let their feelings be known when they mortared the "Blue Eagles" revetments at Tan Son Nhut Air Base, hitting all three of the aircraft.

In the best of "the-show-must-go-on" tradition, the detachment's maintenance men immediately went to work on the stricken aircraft and within four days had one of the planes back in the air. The other two birds had taken direct hits and one was badly damaged. "Blue Eagle" maintenance crews again proved themselves, however,

Largest VN Phib Operation

DULUTH Tagged PCS For "Bold Mariner"

The enemy awoke early that morning and had sand kicked in his face by a big "Bold Mariner", the largest amphibious operation of the Vietnam War.



OFF-LOAD—Beachmaster Unit unloads and routes the constant stream of supplies arriving from the steaming offshore. (photo by ENS Dave Flutch)

With the first light of dawn, the first waves of helicopters and landing craft broke the silence of the Batangan Peninsula.

Just off the coast of the peninsula, the landing platform dock, USS DULUTH (LPD-6), settled in the water to await the call from the beach. Commanded by Captain Marcelus T. Pitz, DULUTH is an integral unit of the Seventh Fleet Amphibious Force under the command of Rear Admiral William W. Beharens, Jr.

DULUTH, designated as Primary Control Ship (PCS) during Operation "Bold Mariner," is designed to control the movement of all amphibious vehicles, troops and supplies by surface means to the objective area. Endowed with radar, extensive communications equipment and men who understand amphibious operations and the structure of the Amphibious Force, she meets the basic requirements of a PCS.

Working out of the ship's Combat Information Center (CIC), Lieutenant Commander Patrick F. Bauschka and his men collect, evaluate and disseminate combat information which arrives from the landing forces on the beach.

"The job of the Primary Control Ship is divided into three stages," said Lieutenant Commander Bauschka, the ship's Combat Information Officer. "The first stage involves guiding the initial assault on to the beach."

"The first and second waves, most of which are landing tracked vehicles (LVTs), make the first contact with the designated landing zone. These craft have the ability to run up on the beach and deliver the Marines and supplies on dry land. During later runs to the beach after the Beachmaster Unit has set up facilities and equipment—LCM 8s and 6s, LCUs LCVPs, off-load supplies over their ramps after coming ashore."

"The second stage, the 'On-

Call" stage," he continued, "maintains men, artillery, munitions and supplies for delivery to the beach at a moment's notice."

"During this stage, pre-loaded landing craft await the call to the beach. Once the call is received by the Primary Control Ship, it is a matter of minutes before the supplies are on the beach and moving toward their objective."

"The third stage, that of re-supply, continues throughout the remainder of the operation," explained the CIC officer. "During the re-supply stage, the boats mass around the PCS. Then they are dispatched as needed to maintain a constant supply and re-supply line to the men on the beach."

"The Primary Control Ship works hand-in-hand with the Marines' Tactical Logistics Group ashore. TACLOG, as it is called, sends the primary request from the established beachhead to the PCS. The PCS, in turn, dispatches its various landing craft to the established stowage holds aboard the LPDs, AKAs and LSDs. Once the supplies have been loaded on to the craft, PCS directs them down the boat lanes and on to the beach."

"Underwater Demolition Teams (UDT) embarked with the Primary Control Ship conduct daily beach and boat lane reconnaissance. Sandbars and other obstacles, blocking the lanes and slowing the movement of supplies inland, are continually searched out and destroyed. Meanwhile, Beachmaster Units clear the beach and unload and route supplies arriving in a constant stream from the amphibious ships off the coast."

And the process continues, day after day, in an effort to keep "Bold Mariner" moving to the conclusion of its mission.

PORTERFIELD Aids "Mariner"

The USS PORTERFIELD delivered direct gunfire 10 miles northeast of Quang Ngai City, hitting several caves suspected of containing Viet Cong personnel and supplies, January 23.

Direct gunfire is frequently used in Vietnam since most targets are sighted and spotted by airborne spotters.

The object of the mission, supporting Operation "Bold Mariner," was to destroy or seal off the caves and any men or material within. The PORTERFIELD's shooting was especial-

ly accurate and several rounds landed directly in the caves.

The Director Officer, Lieutenant junior grade Neil D. Lovell commented, "...the initial salvo landed right on target. Excellent teamwork of our gunfire team enabled us to put all salvos either on target or in the target area."

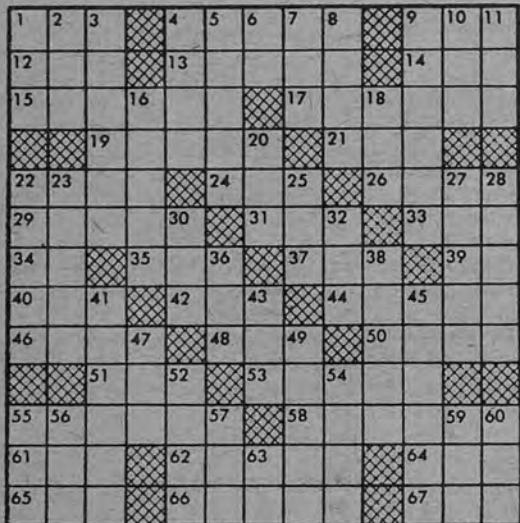
Seaman John M. Rodgers, operator of the director's optical sight, explained on seeing the rounds land in the caves, "I sure would have hated to have been in those caves while we were firing."



PROJECT JENNY — The Saigon detachment of the Navy's Oceanographic Development Squadron Eight poses in front of one of their "Blue Eagle" aircraft at Tan Son Nhut Air Base in Saigon. (Official U.S. Navy Photo)

Fun & Features

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Distr. by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

ACROSS

- 1-Priest's vestment
- 4-At that place
- 9-Edible seed
- 12-Sign of zodiac
- 13-Girl's name
- 14-Ordinance
- 15-Parent
- 17-Give
- 19-Singing voice
- 21-Offspring
- 22-Festive
- 24-Bow
- 26-Direction
- 29-Walks unsteadily
- 31-Emerge victorious
- 33-Pronoun
- 34-Conjunction
- 35-Carpenter's tool
- 37-Soft food
- 39-Exists
- 40-Gratuity
- 42-Long, slender fish
- 44-Flash
- 46-God of love
- 48-Knock
- 50-War god
- 51-Recent
- 53-Hurry
- 55-Buy back
- 58-Squanders
- 61-Exist
- 62-Experience
- 64-Electrified particle



- 65-Sailor (colloq.)
- 66-Spirited horse
- 67-Sob

DOWN

- 1-Man's nickname
- 2-Meadow
- 3-Container
- 4-At that time
- 5-Long-legged bird
- 6-Spanish article
- 7-Communist
- 8-Man's name
- 9-Carpenter's tools
- 10-Consume
- 11-Reverence
- 16-Cures
- 18-At present
- 20-Quarrel
- 22-Irritate
- 23-Norse gods
- 25-Plunge
- 27-Glisten
- 28-Trials
- 30-Sink in middle
- 32-Scold
- 36-Armed conflict
- 38-Piece of dinnerware
- 41-Meditate
- 43-Cheer
- 45-Peaceful
- 47-Bishopric
- 49-Adhesive substance
- 52-Dampens
- 54-Hurried
- 55-Rodent
- 56-Period of time
- 57-Small rug
- 59-Click beetle
- 60-Vessel's curved planking
- 63-Compass point

PEANUTS



SMILIN' JACK



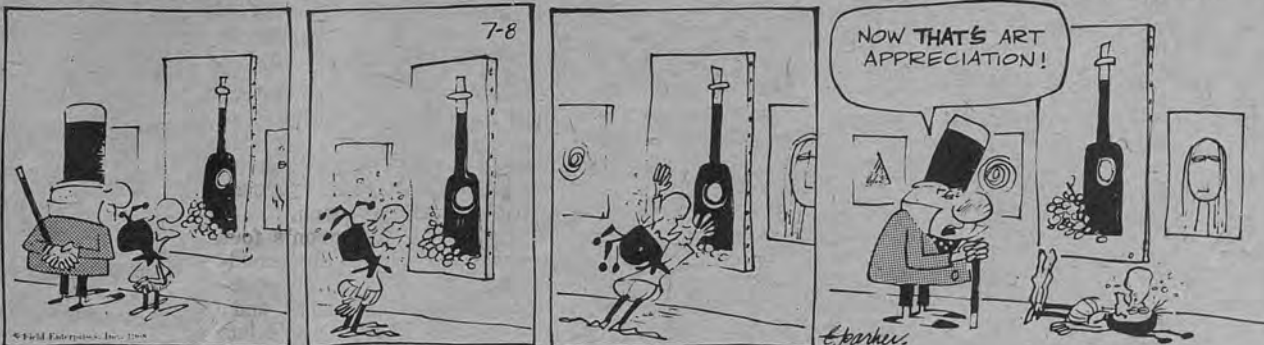
B. C.

RUB RUB RUB RUB



Publishers Hall Syndicate, 1967

THE WIZARD OF ID



by Brant parker and Johnny hart

Blondie

by Chic Young



Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Hi Reserve



THIS IS THREE ALPHA REPORTING ALL SECURE....

Ten Minutes Over N.Vietnam

By JOI Carter Keck

It's mid morning over North Vietnam. American jet aircraft, launched from a Task Force 77 carrier in the Gulf of Tonkin, streak in from the sea. One of these planes is a photo-reconnaissance bird. Guarded by two fighter aircraft, the photo plane dashes in over the coast to the heart of the North Vietnamese panhandle.

Across roads, along a river, cross and recross a railroad, the photo plane, cameras whirling in its belly, covers a predetermined area of the countryside. Below, hidden in bunkers, in stands of trees, along river banks, anti-aircraft gunners attempt to down the aircraft. Rounds of anti-aircraft fire burst in the path of the speeding planes.

Unscathed, the photo plane and its escorts turn back to the sea and home, a Seventh Fleet attack aircraft carrier. Time "over the beach" was only ten minutes.

Since the November 1st bombing halt, U.S. carriers have been launching reconnaissance flights regularly over North Vietnam. They have lost one aircraft to enemy gunners.

A recon mission over North Vietnam requires several hours to set up. Task Force commanders must first determine which areas are to be covered. This information is given to pilots, who spend as much as two hours preparing for the flight. They study charts to determine the best routes in and out, taking into account such things as weather, enemy defenses, possible escape and evasion measures in case they are shot down, and alternate areas to photograph in the event the primary area is inaccessible.

Meanwhile, high power, automatic aerial cameras are checked, rechecked and finally loaded in the belly cavities of specially-configured RF-8 Crusader and RA-5C Vigilante aircraft.

A reconnaissance flight north requires more than a single plane. In addition to the photo bird and two fighters which escort it over the route of flight, there must be supporting aircraft ready for possible emergencies such as fighters to combat MiGs should they attack, Search and Rescue aircraft in case the photo plane or one of the others is shot down, an E-1B Willy Fudd radar control aircraft, and an alternate photo plane is standing by over the sea in case the primary plane is unable to complete its mission.

According to Lieutenant John Smith, a reconnaissance pilot in VFP 63 (Light Photographic Squadron) aboard the attack aircraft carrier USS HANCOCK

(CVA19), "Our best protection over the North is speed. The other planes help quite a bit, but speed is the main thing."

An average reconnaissance flight takes about two hours from the time the aircraft are launched until the return. When they arrive back at the carrier, reconnaissance aircraft wait their turn in the ship's landing pattern to fit in with attack planes returning from combat missions over South Vietnam.

Once back aboard the carrier, the film is removed immediately from the aircraft, run through a rapid processing machine and quickly reviewed by Air Intelligence officers. While a positive print of the film is being made, pilots are debriefed.

According to Lieutenant Smith, "The human element is very important in reconnaissance. Pilots often see something which is not recorded on film, or are able to point something out in more detail, which may lead to further flights."

Within hours after the film is received on board the carrier, reports are sent out to Task Force 77 Commanders.

Reconnaissance flights are launched from carriers of Task Force 77 on combat patrol in Tonkin Gulf. Task Force 77 maintains carriers at sea continuously, launching daily combat strikes in support of ground forces in South Vietnam and reconnaissance flights over North Vietnam.

Restrictions Placed On Space Available

Personnel traveling space available will no longer be allowed to turn down an offered seat on an aircraft in favor of more preferable accommodations on a later flight, the Air Force has announced.

When the traveler refuses to accept a seat on an aircraft departing for his requested destination, he will forfeit his position and his name will be removed from the waiting list.

It will then be necessary for the traveler to initiate a new request with his name being entered at the bottom of the waiting list.

The Air Force has been receiving an increasing number of complaints and queries concerning space available travel via military aircraft and has reiterated the policies and procedures governing this type of travel.

It was emphasized that space available travel is a privilege rather than a right. The privilege is an administrative de-

termination to permit active duty and certain categories of retired military personnel to travel on military aircraft in space which would otherwise go unused.

A person traveling in this status is required to personally report to a passenger terminal, place his name on the space available roster and remain in the terminal area until his name comes up on the roster.

Active duty senior officers in the grade of colonel and above may register by letter, not more than 30 days in advance of their desired date of travel.

Space available travel from the Continental United States to a foreign country outside the Western Hemisphere is not permitted for active duty personnel on leave and eligible retired military personnel.

FOUR VC KILLED

Four enemy soldiers, two of them wearing underwater swimming snorkels, were killed by crewmen of a U.S. Navy landing craft (LCPL) and two river patrol boats (PBRs) on the Cua Viet River 79 miles northwest of Danang in Quang Tri Province February 10.

The Navy men sighted a small group of enemy soldiers on the north bank of the river while on night patrol. The PBRs had previously inserted a U.S. Marine reconnaissance team in the area, and the Marines moved in on the enemy as the PBRs provided illumination and cover fire.

The Marines began receiving enemy grenade and small arms fire and were extracted by the PBRs, which then continued to make firing runs on the enemy positions.

Others PBRs inserted a second Marine patrol after the firefight. Four enemy were reported killed, and there were no American casualties.

Seals Surround VC 'Post Office'

Along the My Tho River, 40 miles southwest of Saigon, U.S. Navy SEALs killed five enemy soldiers after they surrounded the unsuspecting enemy in a house February 5.

The SEALs were tipped on to the location of the house by an informant. After surrounding it, they spotted two Viet Cong and a weapon in the backyard and took the enemy under fire, killing both. Another VC at the side of the house tried to dive into a canal to escape and was killed.

An AK-47 assault rifle and a Chinese SKS carbine were captured in the action. Letters found at the scene indicated the house was being used as a Viet Cong station.

MEET THE CREW

Personnelman Second Class Carlos H. Swain is assigned to the transfer section the Naval Support Activity Saigon's Enlisted Personnel Office. In a few weeks the Georgia sailor will be fulfilling his long time wish as he packs his seabag and heads across the Irish Sea for duty at the U.S. Naval Communication Station in Londonderry, Northern Ireland.

Swain hails from Savannah, Georgia and prior to enlisting in the Navy he attended Savannah High School. In February of 59 he enlisted in the Navy and was sent to the U.S. Naval Training Center in San

Diego, California, for his recruit training.

Upon completion of training the young Georgian received orders to a Naval Air Training Squadron in Milton, Florida. His next set of orders were as assignment to the ATF-161, a fleet tug operating out of Key West, Florida. The following year Swain went aboard the USS ALTAIR, AKS-22 which was homeported in Naples, Italy, and after a tour of five months aboard the supply ship he returned to the states for a tour of shore duty at Key West.

Prior to reporting to NSA in March 1968 he served at the Naval Air Technical Training Command in Memphis, Tennessee. The spark of NSA's Personnel Office is married to the former Miss Peggy Banks whom he met while she was on active duty in the Waves and who also was stationed at the training command in Memphis.

Currently they are calling Charleston, South Carolina, their home where Mrs Swain is residing with their four-year-old daughter, Tina Louise. During his tour here in Vietnam, Swain has been the mainstay of Personnel softball team with his long win-up and fire-ball pitching.



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