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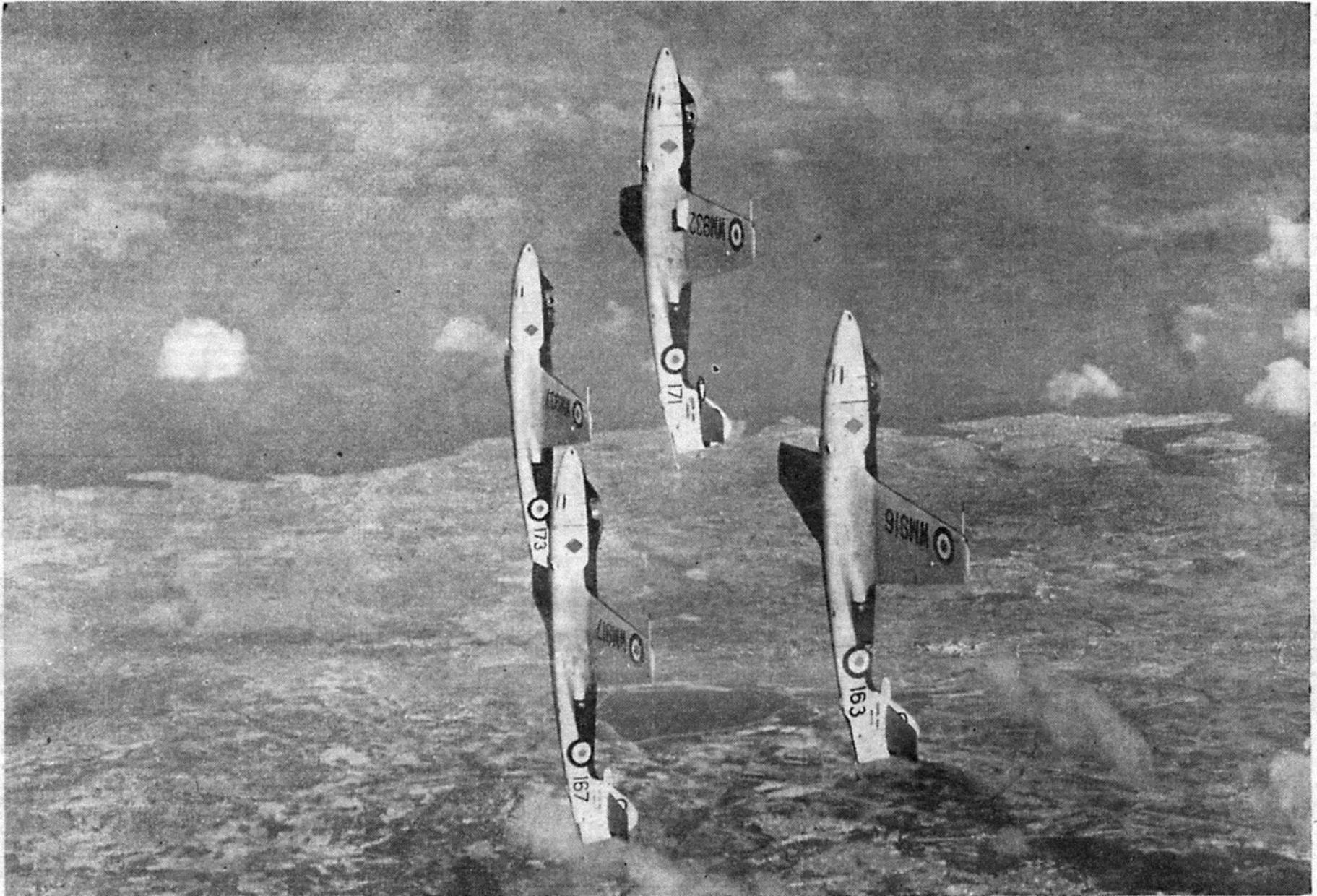
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No. 14 JULY 1955

The Official Newspaper of the Portsmouth Command

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SEA HAWKS OVER MALTA



ACES IN THE AIR

A RECENT photograph of a division of Sea Hawks of No. 806 Naval Air Squadron, commanded by Lieut.-Cdr. D. P. W. Kelly, R.N., which returned from service in the Mediterranean in H.M.S. Centaur on June 6th. The Squadron, which was the first to be equipped with these naval jet fighters, has now had over a year's experience of operating from an angled deck carrier. Embarked in H.M.S. Centaur, it took part in Shopwindow, the annual demonstration of the latest equipment and methods in naval warfare, which was carried out in the Portsmouth area between June 13th and 24th.

Welcome to United States Fleet

THE ROYAL NAVY is proud to welcome units of the Fleet due to arrive on July 4 (American Day of Independence).

1300.—U.S. midshipmen depart for London by special train (as arranged by CINCRELM).

1700 to 1900.—Tea dance (100 hostesses) in U.S.S. Siboney.

1730.—American Consul, Southampton's, reception for 25 officers and midshipmen.

1815.—Cocktail party in H.M.S. Centaur for 230 officers of the U.S. squadron.

Tuesday, July 5
1300.—Commander-in-Chief's lunch in H.M.S. Victory for Rear-Admiral Libby and commanding officers of visiting ships.

1530 to 1845 (approx.).—Lord Mayor of Portsmouth's garden party for 100 officers and midshipmen at Lump's Fort, Southsea.

Wednesday, July 6
1215 for 1230.—Flag Officer Commanding Reserve Fleet's lunch party for Commanding Officer, U.S.S. Northampton, and five of his officers.

1245 for 1300.—Admiral Superintendent, Portsmouth's, lunch party.

1530 to 1845 (approx.).—Lord Mayor of Portsmouth's garden party for 100 enlisted men, at Lump's Fort, Southsea.

1945.—Commander-in-Chief's dinner party for senior officers and their wives.

Thursday, July 7
1430.—Mayor of Chichester's party for 100 midshipmen. To remain in Chichester for tea, an evening meal and possibly a dance.

1530.—Commander-in-Chief's garden party.

1945 for 2000.—Dinner in Wardroom, Royal Naval Barracks, Portsmouth, for 12 officers, and in Royal Naval Staff Officers' Mess for six officers.

2000 for 2015.—Lord Mayor of Portsmouth's dinner party for senior officers of the squadron.

Friday, July 8
1500 to 1630.—Coffee party (300) in U.S.S. Iowa.

2000.—Reception and ball given by Mayor of Gosport, at the Tower, Lecon-Solent, for 200 officers and midshipmen.

Saturday, July 9
1430.—Mayor of Chichester invites 50 midshipmen to carnival.

Monday, July 11
U.S. Fleet leaves harbour.

Drafting Forecast

The Commissioning Programme

FOR GENERAL SERVICE (ships commissioning at Portsmouth).

August 16th: H.M.S. Saintes* (Mediterranean/Home Fleet).

September 1st: H.M.S. Protector (General Service Commission for 12 months only; for service in Falkland Islands Dependencies during the southern summer).

October: H.M.S. Kenya (America and West Indies/Home Fleet).

November: H.M.S. Undine (Mediterranean/Home Fleet). H.M.S. Chevron (Mediterranean/Home Fleet). H.M.S. Chaplet (Mediterranean/Home Fleet).

FOR FOREIGN SERVICE

July 15th: H.M.S. Comus* (Commissioning at Singapore for Far East Station).

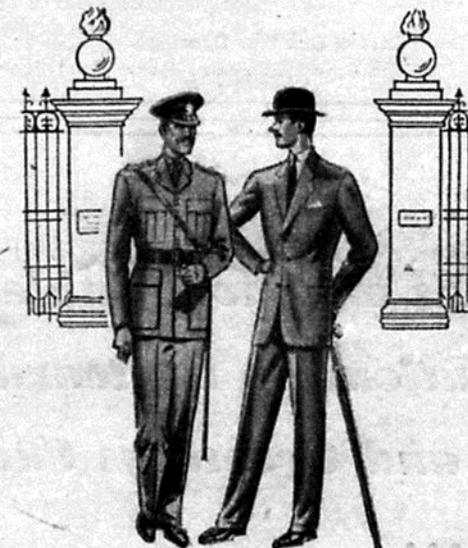
November: H.M.S. Newcastle (Commissioning at Singapore for Far East Station).

FOR LOCAL FOREIGN SERVICE

During the summer 108 Minesweeping Squadron (Commissioning in U.K. for service at Malta).

Note: the ships' companies of ships marked * have been completed and no further volunteers can be accepted.

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PORTSMOUTH
Navy News

EDITOR
Rev. W. J. E. Trezona-Piggott, O.B.E., R.N.,
Royal Naval Barracks, Portsmouth
Tel.: Portsmouth 74571 (Ext. 2913)

EDITORIAL

TO ALL of us in the Navy, housing is a subject of vital interest. To many, how to qualify for admission to the Housing List of a local authority is a problem of the greatest urgency.

"Residential Qualifications" has recently been published by H.M.S.O., price 1s. 6d. This contains the recommendations of a committee which was set up by the Minister of Housing and Local Government in May, 1954. It was called to review the question of residential qualifications for housing required by certain local authorities and to make recommendations.

The problem was most carefully considered. Questionnaires were sent to 92 local authorities, and in addition Service Departments and ex-Service Associations were asked to provide further evidence.

The recommendations made will no doubt receive the consideration of all local authorities, but unless embodied in an Act of Parliament they will not be binding on every local authority.

Such recommendations as "Local authorities should not remove the name of a serviceman's wife from the waiting-list if she temporarily joins her husband at his service station," and "all authorities having admitted servicemen to their lists should see that they receive parity of treatment with civilian applicants," are but two recommendations which have direct appeal to all naval personnel.

The pamphlet contains certain advice to Service men on housing which merits further study. It mentions that applications to a local authority for a house after discharge should be made either to the authority of the district in which the Service man hopes to work, or to the authority with whose area he has some connection. They should be made as early as possible, and if a regular Service man finds work in a different district soon after his discharge, immediate application should be made to the local authority.

Both building societies and local authorities lend money for house purchase and these facilities are available

R.N. PHYSIOLOGICAL LABORATORY

OWING TO its youth and to the comparative unfamiliarity of the science, physiology, with which it deals, it is probable that this Laboratory is almost unknown to the majority of Naval men. Its location is in Alverstoke, a better part of Gosport, and is convenient for close liaison with H.M.S. Dolphin, the Royal Naval Hospital and the Royal Naval Medical School. It was started in 1943 when the need was acutely felt by a number of authorities for an establishment where specialized advice was available and research could be carried out on some of the pressing physiological problems of the Royal Navy. Its first Officer in Charge was the Specialist in Physiology in Submarines, then attached to the Staff of Captain SM/5 and its work at that time was almost entirely confined to underwater problems particularly those concerning Submarines and underwater swimmers. Such problems as the poisonous effects of gases, oxygen, nitrogen and carbon dioxide,

when breathed in high concentrations and under pressure, received high priority. This work has been extended to include other problems connected with Diving. Investigation into Decompression Sickness and the production of new, safe Diving Tables still occupy quite a large part of the Laboratory's effort. A further development of the scope of the Laboratory occurred when underwater explosions and their various effects came to be investigated. Research effort has also been, and in some cases still is, directed towards Submarine Snorting Operations, Night Vision, Cold Weather Clothing, and the future problem of the true submarine. The Laboratory can thus be considered to have two main functions—to improve the lot of the sailor (and hence his operational efficiency) in a very wide variety of ways and to increase the range of Naval Operations in certain directions, for example, in that of underwater swimmers. In contrast to those of the more warlike establishments its objectives are thus mainly humane, but none the less important in the successful prosecution of a war with limited manpower, and in the comfort and efficiency of the Royal Navy in peace time.

The Laboratory's buildings are quite inadequate for the work which has to be carried out, but it seems that at last something is to be done with regard to the provision of new, more commodious premises.

One other activity should be mentioned. Courses of Lectures and practical demonstrations on Submarine Physiology are given to the Submarine Commanding Officers Qualifying Course, Engineer Officers Training Class and to the Officers Training Class (new entries).

EDITORIAL continued

not only for newly built houses but also for older houses. It is considered that house purchase might present real possibilities to the regular Service man, particularly those with twenty-two years' service who receive gratuity and pension sufficient to provide deposit and mortgage repayment respectively. With gratuity and savings combined Service men might have enough capital to embark on buying a house. Information about the financial help available through local authorities by means of loans under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts and Housing Acts 1949, or about guarantees of building society loans can be obtained from local council offices.

It is advisable to keep the housing department of the local authority informed of any change of address, or temporary absence of family. Study of the pamphlet only emphasizes how local authorities vary in their treatment of Service men on the question of housing need. There is very little information that is common to all authorities, and so by far the most useful advice is to seek an appointment with the local housing department where the Service man hopes to settle.

NAVY'S RESEARCH**Cross-channel Swimming Race**

THE ADMIRALTY and the Medical Research Council are to co-operate in physiological investigations on swimmers taking part in the 1955 Butlin's International Cross-Channel Swimming Race which is scheduled to take place between August 10 and 16.

The objects of the investigation are to determine as far as possible the effects of prolonged energy expenditure under cold immersed conditions and to study the bio-chemical changes which may arise. One of the important factors to be assessed is the importance of the fat distribution in the body in relation to prolonged swimming in cold water.

Marines Man Receivers

The fat distribution for all the participants in the swim, as well as other physiological data, will be recorded before and after the swim. Arrangements have been made for physiologists to go at once to any swimmer who is forced to give up, with the object of obtaining the relative scientific facts. These physiologists will have been embarked in the Royal Navy's Seaward Defence M.L. 3515, and a total of 36 Royal Marine Signallers, from the Signals Training School at Eastney, will be embarked in the private motor boats which accompany the swimmers. A Royal Marine will be responsible for notifying M.L. 3515 by radio telephone when a swimmer gives up, and Marines will man the receivers in the M.L. and ashore.

Elaborate two-way communication arrangements have been worked out by Capt. J. C. Luxmoore, R.M. These will include not only the link from the individual swimmer's boats to M.L. 3515, but also from the launch to the judges' boat, and to the Medical Bases

which will be set up at Dover and Folkestone.

The swimmers, totalling 18, will go into the water at Cap Gris Nez, each accompanied by a rowing boat and a motor boat. On coming ashore they will be taken immediately to a Medical Base at Folkestone or Dover, where there will be facilities for them to be de-greased and medically examined. Before they leave Folkestone, where the final fortnight of their training will take place, for Cap Gris Nez, their physiological characteristics will be studied by the medical men.

Organised Research

Dr. L. G. C. Pugh, M.A., B.M., of the Medical Research Council, who took part in the last successful expedition to Everest, and Dr. O. G. Edholm, M.B., B.Sc., carried out a preliminary investigation into the physiology of the Channel swim in last year's race. They formed the conclusion that a more fully organised research would pay a handsome dividend. With these conclusions in mind this year's comprehensive investigation has been sponsored by the Survival at Sea Committee of the Royal Naval Personnel Research Committee, of which Dr. Edholm and Dr. Pugh are members, and of which the Secretary is Surg.-Cdr. J. W. L. Crossfill, M.D., Ch.B.

In all there will be some six investigators embarked in M.L. 3515, and they will include a V.A.D., Miss E. C. McGowan, who is on the staff of the Royal Naval Personnel Research Committee.

It should be understood that the Admiralty's interest in the Channel swim is purely scientific and they will not be responsible for the organisation of the race and the safety of the swimmers.

APPRENTICES FORM ROYAL GUARD

ONE HUNDRED Artificer Apprentices from H.M.S. Caledonia, Rosyth, formed the Royal Guard when Her Majesty The Queen left H.M. Dockyard, Rosyth, for Norway on Wednesday, June 22. Lieut.-Cdr. A. George was First Officer of the Guard and Lieut. D. H. Cameron Second Officer of the Guard.

The Queen's Colour of the Nore Command was paraded. Lieut. A. Lockyer was Colour Officer.

A further 600 Artificer Apprentices lined the route from the Dockyard Station to Britannia.

The Apprentices' Volunteer Band, 45 strong, under the direction of Lieut.-Comdr. V. Evans and Band Sgt. R. Banning, R.M.B., also took part. This band has appeared in several important local occasions this year, including the Royal Highland Show and Rosyth Navy Days.

H.M.S. Caledonia now has a flourishing Pipe Band as well, who provided the music for the platoons marching to take up their positions to line the route.

One-man Escape Chamber**Live Trials**

THE ADMIRALTY policy regarding the provision of escape equipment for use from submarines was outlined to the public in October of last year. One aspect of this policy is to develop a means of individual escape known as the One-man Escape Chamber. Human trials of a prototype of this chamber were conducted last week from H.M. Submarine Solent (Lieut.-Cdr. C. A. J. French, R.N.).

The submarine dived for the purpose to the sea bed in Loch Ewe. She was attended on the surface by H.M.S. Kingfisher whose Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Cdr. R. J. Clutterbuck, D.S.O., R.N., was in charge of the trials.

The trials included six ascents of which three were made from a depth of 80 feet and three from a depth of 128 feet. All the ascents were made by members of the Submarine Escape

Training Staff of H.M.S. Dolphin (Capt. E. F. Pizey, D.S.O., R.N.), led by the Command Escape Officer, Lieut.-Cdr. J. Whitton, D.S.C., R.N. The others taking part in the trial ascents were D. D. Morris, P/JX 155955, Acting Chief Petty Officer, J. J. Wathen C/JX 795893, P.O. and J. P. Hesselten, C/KX 841864, P.O.M. (E).

These ascents, all of which were perfectly satisfactory, were the first to be made from a British submarine for trial purposes. They demonstrated the efficiency of the One-man Escape Chamber system as well as that of the submarine escape immersion suit, which was the only equipment worn for the ascents, as the new chamber relies on the "Free Ascent" principle and dispenses with the need for underwater breathing apparatus.

MOTORING NOTES . . .

AS A result of my remarks in the June issue in defence of the diesel engine I understand that some misgivings have arisen that the R.N. Barracks Welfare Committee were ill-advised to dispose of the Crossley coaches and replace them with petrol-engined vehicles. Such was not my intention. The remarks were intended to correct any misapprehension about the reliability of diesel engines which might have arisen from the reasons given for disposing of the Crossley diesel coaches, and were not intended as a criticism of the committee's action in changing the coaches.

I have since had the opportunity to discuss the problem of the coaches and can reassure my readers that the steps taken by the committee in the circumstances were quite justified. To put it in a nutshell, whilst I am perfectly correct about the reliability of the diesel, I agree that the decision to change over to Bedford Duple coaches was a wise one.

Being in the motor trade and not subject to Naval discipline, the writer is in a privileged position. He therefore feels that it is incumbent upon him to emphasise that the foregoing is unsolicited, but is written in fairness to those whose money paid for the coaches, as well as to the Welfare Committee who control the expenditure and get little thanks and lots of criticism for their labours.

Insurance

Many recent cases of sailors driving motor-cycles and vehicles without adequate insurance cover and regardless of the consequences shows that there is an appalling ignorance of the

law on this subject. A few words on insurance may help many of you to avoid the serious penalties which may result from ignorance.

Firstly, it is worth knowing that a prosecution for driving without insurance cover involves an automatic penalty of disqualification from driving for 12 months, as well as a severe fine or imprisonment. It is regarded as a very serious offence indeed. Anyone who rides a machine without the owner's consent renders himself liable to these penalties.

Secondly, most motor-cycle policies exclude the carrying of a pillion passenger without an additional premium, and owners would be wise if they checked up with their insurance company on this point and obtained confirmation in writing that they are in fact covered. This also frequently applies to motor-cars, and it is not unusual to find that, even if comprehensively insured, one's wife is not covered as a passenger as fully as one expects.

Thirdly, and by no means last, it is not generally known that the policy refers to the vehicle and not to the driver. Although most policies permit the driving of other vehicles with the owners' consent, there is a serious pitfall. Even if the policy on your own vehicle is fully comprehensive, whilst driving someone else's car the policy usually only covers liability to third parties and does not cover the vehicle itself. Consequently, if you borrow your chum's machine and bend it, it is quite possible that you will have to pay the repair bill yourself even though your own policy may be comprehensive.

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VOLUNTEERING . . .

WHEN THEIR Lordships introduced the General Service Commission scheme, some 15 months ago, they also gave instructions that a forecast of the Commissioning Programme was to be published in order that men should be able to volunteer for particular forms of service. The purpose of this article is to show how any man can affect his own employment by volunteering for special ships, service or stations, and the limitations which the facts of life impose on the Drafting Authority's natural desire to meet all requests.

The Method of Volunteering

The method is to submit a request, in the usual way, to your Divisional Officer; he passes it to the Captain's office, and it travels on in the form of a service letter to the Commodore, who is the Drafting Authority.

What can be Volunteered for?

There are few limits inside common sense which affect what can be asked for, but it is as well to let common sense be your guide. For instance, a man who volunteers for service at HAIFA does little harm, but is unlikely to do himself much good as there are no Naval Establishments at that not-very-romantic spot. In the same way, whereas a man who asks for a draft "overseas" will probably be satisfied, the man who volunteers for "South Atlantic only" is less likely to get his way as there are only a few billets in that direction.

The Drafting Officers are strictly confined to the letter of a request. A man who volunteers for H.M.S. Comus and cannot be accepted will not be taken as a volunteer for any other ship on similar service—if he wishes to serve on the Far East Station, or just "overseas," he should say so.

The types of drafting service, with their sub-divisions, are:

Overseas Service:

Foreign Service, Local Foreign Service, General Service.

U.K.-Based Service

Port Service, Home Sea Service.

Examples

Here are examples of the wording of requests, using the important words "only" and "preference":

Wording **Meaning**
Sea Service—I would like to go to a seagoing ship anywhere in the world.

Overseas Service—I would like to go abroad anywhere—Foreign Service, General Service, or Local Foreign Service.

Foreign Service (preference Comus)—I would like to go on foreign seagoing service, preferably in H.M.S. Comus. I am not a volunteer for General Service.

Local Foreign Service (Malta only)—I would like an accompanied billet but in Malta only; I am not a volunteer for any kind of overseas service.

General Service—I would like to go abroad, but only in a General Service ship, not Local Foreign Service nor Foreign Sea Service.

Port Service (near Birmingham)—I live in Birmingham and would like to be near there.

The Drafting Cycle

All men will, it is believed, know that a man's drafting cycle invariably consists of a period overseas (that is, in a General Service ship, in a Foreign Service ship, or ashore on Local Foreign Service) followed by a period of "U.K.-Based Service." The "U.K.-Based Service" always finishes with a spell of Port Service and nearly always begins with Port Service also. In the middle of "U.K.-Based Service" comes, more often than not, a period of "Home Sea Service." The periods spent in each portion of "U.K.-Based Service" vary from Branch to Branch and Rate to Rate.

The Roster

On returning from Overseas Service a man enters the "Overseas Roster"—his point of entry being decided by "Roster Date" which is the date he returns to U.K. adjusted for his period overseas. He gains further adjustment to the Roster Date by reason of Home Sea Service but, by and large, a man is pushed up the Roster, by men coming in after and below him, until he reaches the top: when he gets to the top he is the next man to go overseas and nothing (almost) can save him: he

is bound to go unless he is due to leave the Service shortly, or has a cast-iron compassionate case, or is medically unfit. If, in a particular billet, a volunteer from lower in the Roster takes his place his draft overseas is postponed, but he remains at the top of the Roster.

In making up the crew of a ship commissioning for overseas service, therefore, the Drafting Officer takes the top man for the rate, branch and specialist qualification he wants. He then runs his eye down the roster to see if anyone has volunteered for the specific duty being manned up, and provided that the volunteer is not in a job from which he cannot be relieved, and is not unavailable for some other reason (e.g. wanted for course) he takes the volunteer in preference.

Volunteers for Overseas Service

Any man, therefore, not already overseas, can apply for a draft overseas. If, however, you are top of the Roster already, you will go to the next billet on the principle "A man cannot volunteer himself out of an overseas draft." In other words, no volunteer gets his draft overseas postponed so that he can pick up what he wants. Get applications in, in good time: ships' companies lists are made up about eight or ten weeks before commissioning date because the Drafting Office gives, whenever possible, six weeks notice of overseas draft.

Volunteers for Home Sea Draft

A man back recently from overseas can, effectively, volunteer for Home Sea Service, but men who are due for Overseas Service in the next few months would, in this way, delay their draft overseas and therefore could not be considered. Volunteers for extensions of Home Sea Service are not normally accepted, since the credit they receive on the Roster would unduly postpone their next draft foreign.

Volunteers for Port Service

Port Service comprises all service ashore in United Kingdom and service in certain small ships working out of Portsmouth daily. Although most billets are in the Portsmouth area, there are some, of all branches, in various parts of Northern Ireland, England, Scotland and Wales. In the apportionment of drafts away from Portsmouth to men coming in from overseas, or Home Sea Service ships, the following principles are worked to:

- (a) Compassionate cases are given priority;
- (b) Men who request to spend their Port Service in certain areas are considered next;
- (c) Men whose next-of-kin are shown as in the general area are then considered.

If there is no one who falls under (a), (b) and (c), then:

- (d) The next available rating goes to the billet regardless of where his home is.

It is, therefore, worthwhile for every man to make sure that his Next-of-Kin information is up to date—and if he wants to serve in Portsmouth although his next-of-kin are in Glasgow to request "to serve next period Port Service in Portsmouth area."

Conclusion

From the time we joined the Service, we have all felt "Never volunteer because if it does turn up then I have no one else to blame." I sometimes think that was a bogey put out or invented by Captain's Office staffs who have to type the letters:

"The above-named rating has requested and is recommended . . ." A man can, often now, get himself to sea in circumstances which suit himself, instead of leaving the whole thing to the Drafting Officer and the Roster. Moreover, in many cases, he can get at least a proportion of his Port Service in parts of the United Kingdom he prefers.

Such volunteering does not, of course, make drafting easier—but the Drafting Office Crew are such soft-hearted people that they are only too happy to spend the evenings of their Port Service time trying more and ever more combinations of drafts in the idle hope of making a satisfied customer or two.

DOLPHIN FAMILIES DAY

July 23

See under Command News for further details

MARRIED QUARTERS

TO BE in the fashion, one must blame the railway strike for any delays which may have occurred. In point of fact, the strike has caused delays in the building programme. Certain fittings have not been received for the first houses at Paulsgrove and there has been a shortage of bricks and cement on another site. Otherwise, the building progress has been quite good.

On the "hirings" side it is obviously becoming more difficult to find suitable houses and flats to let. The agents seem to have little to offer. It is not really very surprising when some 600 have already been taken up on the "Admiralty scheme." Yet it is astonishing how the really enterprising man is able to fix himself up. It may be that the situation will ease when the holiday season is over.

Clearing the Roster

Nevertheless, good progress has been made in clearing the rosters. Whereas the waiting period when the central roster was started in April was 16 months, it is now down to between eight and nine months and the total number of hirings has increased to a gratifying extent in the last two months. There is, of course, a limit to the total number of hirings which may be taken up. It is not yet known whether approval will be given for a periodical increase next quarter when permanent houses will begin to come off the line. It would be wise to anticipate that the waiting period may tend to increase after the next month or two, not only on this account, but also because there have been so many new applications since the beginning of 1955.

Opening of New Block

THE NEWLY completed accommodation block for Chief Petty Officers and Petty Officers borne in the Royal Naval Barracks, Devonport, will be opened at 2.30 p.m. on Friday, July 1, 1955, by the First Lord of the Admiralty, the Rt. Hon. J. P. L. Thomas, M.P.

Many other senior officers, together with civil dignitaries, have been invited to attend the opening ceremony and subsequently inspect the building.

The block, which has been under construction since September, 1952, will accommodate 624 Chief Petty Officers and Petty Officers in single cabins, which are fitted with a hot and cold water supply and, in addition, there is accommodation in dormitories for a further 56 men. Each of the single cabins bears the name of a warship which is either now with the Fleet or has served with distinction in the past.

THE UNDER 5's CLUB

THE UNDER 5's Club is open every Thursday and Friday afternoon from 2 o'clock until 5 o'clock with the exception of Leave periods.

The Club is for the use of children of serving men, and officers, of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines.

No child can become a member after reaching the age of 5 years.

Subscription 1s. 6d. a year or 6d. for three months.

Three pence is charged for each afternoon the child is left at the Club.

Biscuits are given at the additional charge of 1½d.

A certified nurse is in attendance each afternoon assisted by voluntary helpers.

New members will be very welcome. For further particulars apply to the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Dimmock, 88 Hawthorn Crescent, Cosham, Tel. Cosham 78261.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DEAR SIR,—I am at present engaged in preparing a book, provisional title "Pets Under the White Ensign" and, although many friends have been kind enough to supply material, nevertheless, there are lots of ships, especially those of the Grand Fleet and large ships up to 1936, of whom I have little or no information. Conversely, pets of ships during the past war are wanted too. What happened for instance to the famous parrot of the Pepperpot as "Penelope" was later named.

Will you appeal to your readers, especially those of the Old Comrades Associations to put pencil and paper together and let me have details. All letters will be answered.

Yours sincerely,
Lieut.-Cdr. Shute, R.N.,
H.M.S. Phoenix.

R.N. and R.M. Maternity Home

THE R.N. and R.M. Maternity Home has been busy planning for 1956.

With effect from January 1st, 1956 (i.e., in respect of confinements occurring on and after that date), the scale of fees for the R.N. and R.M. Maternity Home is as follows:

	£	s.	d.
Chief Petty Officer, Quartermaster Sergeant, Colour Sergeant	17	10	0
Petty Officer, Sergeant	16	10	0
Leading Rate, Corporal	14	0	0
Able Seaman, Marine	12	10	0
Ordinary Rate	11	10	0
Ex-Service Patients	13	10	0
Officers	21	0	0

These fees are inclusive and there are no extras; they are below the actual cost of running the Home, but the difference is made up by grants from the Royal Naval Benevolent Trust, King George's Fund for Sailors and from ships and establishments of the Portsmouth Command.

There will be no restrictions so far as drafting of husband, home conditions or eligibility for National Health Service Treatment are concerned, and the wives of the following are eligible:

- Officers;
- Ratings of the Portsmouth Port Division;

Submarine ratings of any Port Division;

Royal Marine other ranks attached to Portsmouth Group Royal Marines;

Ex-Naval personnel with seven years or more service;

Ratings of other Port Divisions whose wives are domiciled locally;

Officers and men of the Royal Naval Reserve, Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, and Royal Marine Forces Volunteer Reserve.

The Home accepts bookings from ex-Wrens, subject to conditions at the time, and providing they have served a minimum of three years in the W.R.N.S. and that the booking takes place within two years of their discharge from the W.R.N.S. and providing the wife of a serving or ex-serving rating is not excluded. Officers and ratings serving in the W.R.N.V.R. are eligible under the same conditions.

The Maternity Home is full of hope for the future and is endeavouring to give these new regulations wide publicity in view of the fact that necessary restrictions on entry into the Home are now about to be removed.

A.T.P.

For Motorists

THE FORCES Motor Club, membership of which is open to all serving and retired members of the Forces, whether car or motor-cycle owners or not, exists to provide social and sporting amenities wherever its members congregate.

In addition, certain facilities exist whereby accessories can be supplied and insurance effected at considerably reduced rates.

Full details and application forms for membership can be obtained from: The Secretary, The Forces Motor Club Ltd., 2 Charterhouse Mews, London, E.C.1.

An attempt is being made to form a local group and interested members are invited to communicate with Lieut. H. Bunting, R.N., Fraser Gunnery Range, Eastney. Telephone: Portsmouth Dockyard Ext. 5177, 78, 81, 81 Ext. 31, or Portsmouth 5242, 6345, Ext. 31.

As soon as sufficient numbers are forthcoming a meeting will be arranged to elect a chairman and secretary and to discuss plans for the future.

SAILING IN THE PORTSMOUTH COMMAND

THERE HAVE been excellent turn-outs for all races and very keen competition both in practice and trophy races. Honours have been equally shared between officers and men and there are many more keen sailors than there are boats; a very healthy situation.

Next month (editorial space allowing) more details of the sailing will be given including the results of the R.N.S.A. regatta which took place off Southsea on Saturday, June 25.

SERVICE FOR UNIFIT THE SERVICE

40 MILITARY RD., CHATHAM (Telephone 4016) KENT
THE HIGH REPUTATION OF UNIFIT TAILORING LIES IN THE CUT AND SUPERB FINISH OF EVERY SUIT MADE



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WHY NOT JOIN UNIFIT'S ALLOTMENT SYSTEM AND BE SURE OF HAVING A TAILOR WHO CAN SUPPLY YOU WITH THE SMARTEST AND MOST UP-TO-DATE CLOTHING AT REASONABLE PRICES PLEASE WRITE FOR A FORM AND CATALOGUE

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Careers in Engineering Company for ex-Royal Navy skilled craftsmen as Fitters, Turners, Milling machinists, etc. Good working conditions and rates of pay in new factory.

Apply Secretary,

CJC DEVELOPMENTS (Portsmouth) LTD.,
Fitzherbert Road, Farlington, PORTSMOUTH



HOW TO ENJOY AN EXTRA PENSION WHEN YOU RETIRE

YOUNG men are more concerned about a successful Service career. But retirement will come and an adequate income will be needed to enjoy it. NOW IS THE BEST TIME to start providing either an extra pension at 65 to supplement Service and State pensions or, if you prefer, a substantial cash sum on leaving the Service to help you to establish yourself in civilian life. The younger you are, the better terms you can secure.

APPLY FOR OUR SPECIAL SCHEMES FOR SUPPLEMENTARY PENSIONS

Advantages include:

Pension at 65. Premiums cease at 40, 45 or 55. Options include a lump sum on leaving Service. Family protection, etc.

Write, stating date of birth, for favourable premiums payable by Naval Allotment to—



PROVIDENT HOUSE
246, BISHOPSGATE, LONDON, E.C.2
Telephone: BISHOPSGATE 5786

W.R.N.S. NOTES . . .

THIRTY-SIX W.R.N.S. ratings serving in H.M.S. Victory formed one platoon of the W.R.N.S. Company at the Queen's Birthday Parade on June 9, 1955. The Company was led by First Officer E. M. Foster Hall, while Second Officer D. Williams, from H.M.S. Dædalus, acted as second-in-command.

H.M.S. Excellent

The Leading Wrens and Wrens serving in H.M.S. Excellent gave a small and successful dance in their Quarters, Tuesday, June 21. Among their many guests they were pleased to welcome Capt. and Mrs. Rutherford. Congratulations to the Wren Cooks (S.) on the refreshments, which everyone enjoyed, and the dance committee and helpers who were responsible for the attractive floral decorations.

H.M.S. Collingwood

The 50 felt toys made by the W.R.N.S. serving in H.M.S. Collingwood for sale at the Foudroyant Fair last month sold so well that this unit was asked to make more toys for sale at the church bazaar held during this establishment's Sports Day. Another 60 toys were made, all of which were sold.

The results of the W.R.N.S. sporting events were as follows:

100 Yards.—1, Leading Wren Stables; 2, Wren Deakins.
Javelin.—1, Wren Burtenshaw; 2, Wren White.

High Jump.—1, Leading Wren Macnaughton; 2, Wren Deakins.

Long Jump.—1, Leading Wren Stables; 2, Wren Deakins.

During the day the Wren S.B.A. trainees had a busy time keeping their charges amused and happy in the children's corner.

The Sports Day ended with a successful ship's company dance which was well supported by members of the W.R.N.S.

H.M.S. Mercury

A bazaar in aid of the W.R.N.S. Benevolent Trust will be held on Tuesday, July 5, in the W.R.N.S. Quarters, H.M.S. Mercury, from 4.30 p.m. until 8 p.m. All visitors will be welcome.

Among the many attractions will be a skittle alley, a bran tub full of surprises, and for sale, tea, cakes and

sweets. There will also be raffles; in fact, something to amuse everyone.

A new and much appreciated N.A.A.F.I. canteen was opened at the W.R.N.S. Quarters, Soberton, on Wednesday, June 8, by Mrs. E. B. Ashmore, wife of Cdr. E. B. Ashmore, D.S.C., R.N.

W.R.N.S. Officers

Second Officer P. A. Newton, Command Sports Officer, was appointed to the Safety Equipment Course, H.M.S. Siskin, on June 21. We wish her every success. In her place we welcome Third Officer R. Moore.

Second Officer C. M. G. Cardew, from H.M.S. President, joined for duties on the staff of Flag Officer (Submarines), Fort Blockhouse, on May 31.

Second Officer Y. Smith took up a new appointment during June for personnel selection duties in Victoria Barracks.

Last month the following officers were appointed to Portsmouth Command for temporary duties: Third Officer M. L. Shearmur joined H.M.S. Victory for Quarters training in the Duchess of Kent Barracks. Third Officer P. Goodfellow joined H.M.S. Collingwood for administrative training; and Third Officer B. Middleton, for training in personnel selection duties; Third Officer E. R. Bell joined H.M.S. Mercury for administrative training.

W.R.N.S. SPORTS

R.M.B., Eastney

The Buckland ladies' netball team visited the Royal Marines Barracks, Eastney, on May 20, and a most enjoyable friendly match was played against the W.R.N.S. unit team. The visiting team won by 11 goals to 7.

H.M.S. Mercury

In a friendly match at Soberton, H.M.S. Mercury beat H.M.S. Collingwood in a tennis match by four sets.

The Wrens were at home to H.M.S. Dauntless on June 10 for tennis and cricket matches. Mercury lost the tennis by 8 sets to 1, and the cricket by 18 runs.

W.R.N.S. Command Tennis

The finals of the doubles were won by Miss B. Beasley, Q.A.R.N.S., and Miss H. Hampton, Q.A.R.N.S., both serving in R.N. Hospital, Haslar. They beat Second Officer O. E. Archer, R.M.B., Eastney, and her partner, Wren S. E. Collen, H.M.S. Victory, 6-2, 6-2.

The finals of the Command singles tournament went to Wren B. Lane, H.M.S. Vernon, who beat P.O. Wren S. Overton, H.M.S. Victory, 7-5, 6-2.

Command Inter-Unit Cricket

H.M.S. Victory's team are to be congratulated on winning the Command cup when they beat the W.R.N.S. unit serving in R.M.B., Eastney, at Eastney on Wednesday, June 8.

TESTING, TESTING

Little Boy Blue, oh BLOW your horn!

Testing loud-speakers morn after morn.

"Saturday, Sunday; one, two, three"

Presumably someone enjoys the spree.

But oh, how we long to change the record.

(A nursery rhyme some relief would afford.)

And why doesn't someone conceive the idea

Of testing announcers as well as gear?

A Patience-tested Family Welfare Worker, R.N.B.

Continued from column 5

NORTH END BRANCH

ON TUESDAY, JUNE 7, our monthly meeting at Fisher Hall was given over entirely to "Sing, Say or Pay." Members were asked to get up and either sing, tell an amusing story or entertain in any way they could, or in default, pay a forfeit into funds. It was surprising how much talent showed up.

There was also a Bring and Buy stall.

Our Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Doig, presided in the absence of Mrs. Rutherford.

A number of our members are looking forward to joining the Vernon Branch on their outing to visit the Innoxia Factory at Islington on June 22. There will be no monthly meetings at Fisher Hall in July and August, but we are having a Garden Party in the Wallaby Garden at Whale Island on Friday, July 1, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Friendly Wives

H.M.S. VERNON BRANCH

THE H.M.S. VERNON Branch, R.N.E.U.S.W. met in the Wardroom Annex, H.M.S. Vernon, on Wednesday, May 25, at 2.15 p.m. Mrs. J. Grant presided. Mrs. Fawkes, wife of Rear-Admiral Fawkes, Flag Officer Submarines, and Chairman of the Gosport and Fareham Branch, was one of the guests.

The opening prayers were said by the Rev. W. H. Browne, and Mrs. J. Riley provided the piano accompaniment to the singing of the hymn "Eternal Father."

An embroidered tray cloth, presented by Mrs. H. J. R. Saunders, was raffled by Mrs. Brewer and won by Mrs. C. Hewison.

Miss Cynthia Zorab, of Winchester, who was trained by Constance Spry, gave a demonstration of floral arrangements which was most interesting, and some of the effects achieved will be an inspiration to members, particularly the owners of gardens. During the proceedings two photographs were taken by a representative of the Portsmouth Evening News. Mrs. H. Wilkin proposed a vote of thanks to Miss Zorab.

It is hoped that we shall have fine weather and a large attendance at the garden party which will be held on Wednesday, July 20, at 2.15 p.m. on the Wardroom lawn, by kind permission of Capt. J. Grant, R.N. All members will be welcome to bring their children and two other guests.

A sewing meeting will be held on July 6. Mrs. Walmsley will be very glad of additional helpers.

It is very much regretted that our hon. secretary, Mrs. G. A. G. Williams, has had to resign. Her work has been of sterling worth and she will be greatly missed. Our new hon. secretary is Mrs. L. G. Brooks, 7 Hereford Road, Southsea. (Phone Portsmouth 5652.)

GOSPORT AND FAREHAM BRANCH

AT OUR June meeting we elected our sub-committee for the 1955-56 season. Mrs. Browning, Mrs. Rhoades and Mrs. Mott stood again and were re-elected and were joined by Mrs. Maryon, Mrs. Marsden and Mrs. Tucker. We would like to thank the re-

tiring members, Mrs. Rickards, Mrs. Stannard and Mrs. Weston, for all their hard work on our behalf.

After our business was finished, we were entertained with some very novel competitions.

Our next meeting, the last of this season, is on July 7, at 2.30, and is our garden party, being held by kind invitation of Rear-Admiral and Mrs. Fawkes at "The Haven," Green Lane, Alverstoke.

SOUTHSEA BRANCH

THE MONTHLY meeting of the Southsea Branch, R.N.F.U.S.W. was held last month on Monday the 13th, when Mrs. Findanus MacGregor gave a most interesting and entertaining talk and demonstration as a beauty counsellor. Two volunteers from the audience acted as models for the demonstration, which was very much enjoyed by everyone at the meeting.

About the time of going to press, over 70 members of the Southsea Branch will be setting off for a day's outing in two motor coaches which will take them on a tour of the Thames Valley.

At the committee meeting of the Branch, earlier in June, Lady Creasy announced that the Southsea Branch would in future be able to hold their monthly meetings in St. Andrew's Church Hall in the Royal Naval Barracks, by kind permission of Commodore C. L. G. Evans, C.B.E., D.S.O., D.S.C. This news was passed on to the members at the monthly meeting, where it was enthusiastically applauded.

The programme for the meetings for the six months beginning in September has been planned, and includes a variety of interest and entertainment. Cards will be printed, giving details of the meetings, and they will be distributed to all the members. Any wives who would like to join will be most welcome to come to any of the meetings, and should apply for details to the hon. secretary, telephone Portsmouth 31839.

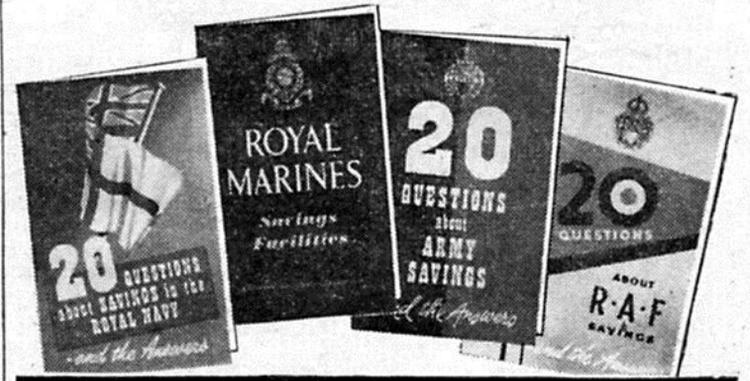
This month the meeting will be as usual at Foresters' Hall, on Monday, July 11, at 2.15 p.m., and there will be a talk and demonstration on flower arrangement.

Continued in column 3

The higher one climbs
in the Service
the more one appreciates

PLYMOUTH GIN

Perfect "Pink" or Plain (with water); or with tonic, vermouth, cordials, etc.
BOTTLE 33/9 HALF BOTTLE 17/7
QTR. BOTTLE 9/2 MINIATURE 3/7
U.K. ONLY.



From: Air Marshal Sir Thomas Williams, K.C.B., O.B.E., M.C., D.F.C., M.A., J.P.

Chairman, H.M. Forces Savings Committee

To: All Serving in Her Majesty's Forces

Subject: SAVE WHILE YOU SERVE

You may say that you find it hard enough to save in "Civvy Street" so how on earth can you do so in the Services? However, if you think about it seriously there is no better time to start — if you haven't already done so. Every unit in all the Services "lays on" National Savings facilities and the Unit Savings Officer will be only too pleased to help would-be savers.

I recently retired after many years in the Royal Air Force. I know how valuable a service Forces Savings is giving to both Regulars and National Service personnel, and no matter where you may be stationed you can save a bit from your pay if you want to do so.

I also commend Forces Savings for mention by parents and friends to young men who are going into the Services (and to young women too, as in the Women's Services there are some of our best savers!)

We have an excellent series of leaflets (shown above) which tell, in simple language, all about Forces Savings. Why not write for a copy of the one which applies. Address your letter to me:—

Air Marshal Sir Thomas Williams,
H.M. Forces Savings Committee,
1 Princes Gate, London, S.W.7.

Have YOU a personal problem? .. ASK JOHN ENGLISH

"R.F.R." Training

CAN YOU please supply me with information of R.F.R. Training. First, what type of ship is H.M.S. Boxer? ; second, are ratings under training allowed to live ashore? ; third, what type of training is performed? Will you please let me have this information as soon as possible.

P.S.—Is it advisable to bring wife?
Answer: I have ascertained that you will be required for a week's R.F.R. training commencing June 20. After kitting-up and medical examination in R.N. Barracks, Portsmouth, you will carry out refresher training as an Able Seaman (R.P. III) in H.M.S. Boxer which is a converted L.S.T. now employed as a radar training ship.

I think it is unlikely that you will be allowed to live ashore as the ship is at sea most of the week: I do not advise you to bring your wife.

"Change of Port Division"

Although I am a Devonport rating I have served the last fourteen years in the Submarine Service and have accordingly made Portsmouth my place of permanent residence.

Contemplating a return to general service, I requested to change depots, from Devonport to Portsmouth, and after a letter had been written to the depots concerned, I was informed by my C.O. that my name had been placed on the roster.

Could you kindly tell me if I need a "swap" or, if not, just how the matter stands?

Answer: Exchange of Port Divisions by two men with similar rates and time to serve is simple and quick.

Requests for change of Port Divisions by men who are unable to find a substitute depend on the state of the Branch. The Commodore has the duty of ensuring that his Port Division numbers are and will continue to be adequate to meet manning requirements: where numbers borne are excessive, change of Port Division can be permitted without the formality of a relief.

As you probably know, Chief and Petty Officer Radio Electricians are rare and valuable creatures. As to whether Devonport could spare you without relief I cannot say—I understand that Portsmouth Drafting Office

would welcome you! I advise you to apply through your Commanding Officer to the Commodore, R.N.B., Devonport.

"Discharge by Purchase"

I am a serving member of H.M. Navy, and up to the present, I have been perfectly content with my lot, no money worries, and unmarried. Recently however my Father died, leaving my Mother to fend for herself and my young brother. Of course, I send money home, but naval pay is not over large in this matter. I am serving a twelve year engagement, and have some four years left to complete my time. I joined in 1945 as a boy. I personally do not consider my mother strong enough to manage a full-time job, and do the housework, and look after my young brother, and with this in mind I have decided to try for my discharge from the service, by purchase, in order that I can ease the burden on her, both financially and otherwise. I have already requested in the normal manner, and on the advice of my Divisional Officer I am attempting to get a job. I have written away for a job in the mines, and should this fail, I have prospects of other employment. In addition I have written to my family doctor, and to my M.P.

I would be grateful for any advice you could give me in this matter, such as the amount of money required for me to purchase my discharge, and any other intricacies you may know of.

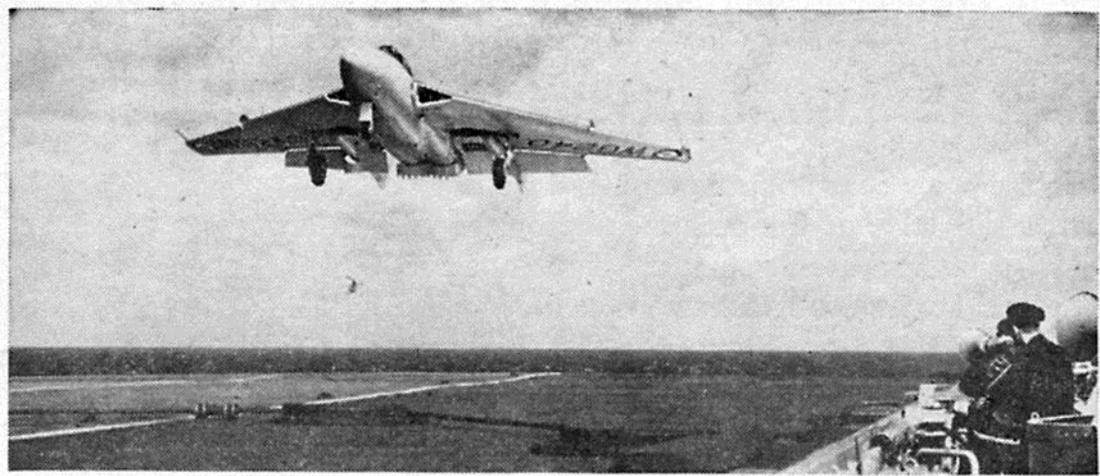
Would you please reply by letter, stamped addressed envelope is enclosed.

Answer: The regulations for discharge by purchase are contained in Q.R. & A.I. Articles 0863—0865 which I advise you to study.

I think in your case that, as the issue is mainly financial, your discharge might depend on the guaranteed offer of other employment.

It is possible that, in view of the compassionate circumstances, the purchase money, or part of it, may be waived; the sum involved in your case would be £50, if you are in your 8th year of man's time.

Application for discharge should, of course, be made through your Commanding Officer.



D.H.110. A two-seat, all-weather radar fighter of high performance ordered by the Royal Navy for carrier-borne operations. It has two Rolls-Royce Avon engines

Royal Naval Association PORTSMOUTH

AT A recent meeting of the above Association, Captain G. C. Colville, R.N. (Rtd.), paid a visit to the members and accepted the office of branch President, explaining that he was a very busy man in spite of his retired status and residing some sixteen miles from Portsmouth he would do his best to carry out the responsibilities expected in this office.

The Chairman also told the members that he had invited the Rev. W. J. E. Tregenna-Piggott, O.B.E., R.N., to become the branch Chaplain and that he had accepted, the new Chaplain will need no introduction to readers—he being the editor of this journal, we will now look forward to his visit to us. For the information of our distant members the Rev. John Armstrong, O.B.E., R.N., is now serving as Chaplain to H.M. Dockyard, Malta.

Our Vice-President, Lieut. Noble, R.N., hopes in the near future to stage in our Headquarters a display of contemporary art, the pictures being the work of Mr. G. R. Deakins, Snr. Cd. Gnr. of H.M.S. Victory (Ship).

The members of the branch have, during the month of June, attended the dedication of the branch Standards of the Worthing and Lewes branches of the R.N. Association, the latter being in inclement weather which caused the ceremony to be transferred from the Rectory Field to the Town Hall, which was most disappointing as the afternoon turned out to be fine.

We had a very pleasant surprise on the evening of Saturday, June 18, when Mr. David Whitfield, the radio and television star who was in London on a public appearance, drove down to Portsmouth and dropped in to see the club members on his way out of the city. It may be of interest to our new members to know that David, as A.B. Whitfield, used to entertain us with his singing at our headquarters before leaving the Navy some four or five years ago.

HAVANT

THOSE FROM Havant Branch who visited H.M.S. Vernon on May 20 reported most enthusiastically about the hospitality which had been extended to them. The Sing-song and other Social Events during the evening were particularly popular.

A coachload from the Branch went to Worthing on June 6 for the Dedication of their Branch Standard. The Parade, which was inspected by Admiral Sir Charles Little, G.C.B., G.B.E., formed up on Broadwater Green.

They were to have been inspected again by Admiral Sir Charles Little, G.C.B., G.B.E., on June 19 when a coachload from their Branch went to Lewes for the Dedication of the Royal Naval Association Branch Standard there. Bad weather during the forenoon led to a cancellation of the Parade, but he addressed all present in the Town Hall after the Standard had been dedicated. On the return journey they called at the Brighton and Hove Branch of The Royal Naval Association and were very well entertained.

At their Branch Meeting on June 7, the Hon. Treasurer made known a scheme whereby Members of the Branch using a certain shop for their purchases could obtain a discount, which would be credited to Branch Funds as a Donation if they mentioned that they were Members.

PHOENIX MASCOT

"SKIPS"—mascot of "Phoenix" Sports Teams. Age (July 1st) 10 weeks. A vixen, obtained when four weeks old. Fed at first by bottle, now weaned to puppy food. No raw meat of any kind is given. Weight on arrival, 5½ lb. Weight now, 9½ lb. Height, 7½ ins.; length, 1 ft. 8 ins.; length of brush, 1 ft.; total, nose to brush tip, 2 ft. 8 ins. First T.V. debut, July 18th.

Picture on Page 9

ONLY ONE WEEK TO GO!!

THE AIR SHOW BY THE NAVY
REMEMBER THE DATE
SATURDAY, JULY 9th
LEE-ON-SOLENT
AIR DISPLAY

ADMISSION - - ADULTS 1/-; CHILDREN 6d.
GATES OPEN AT 1 p.m.

WHAT'S ON - July, 1955

JULY

- 2.-Aug. 7.—Cumberland House Art Gallery — Contemporary Artists' Exhibition, 1955.
- 3.—Vespa Rally.
- 4.—Theatre Royal, Portsmouth. Direct from the Prince of Wales Theatre in London, Terry Thomas in Room For Two, with big West End cast.
- 6.-Sept. 2.—Bathing Beauty Competitions every Wednesday, for the title of "Miss Southsea, 1955."
- 6.-7.—H.M.S. Dryad Players present "Fumed Oak," by Noel Coward, and "Two Gentlemen of Soho," by A. P. Herbert.
- 9., 11.-12.—Cricket: Hampshire v. Somerset.
- 14.—H.M.S. Dryad Ship's Company Dance, at Kimbells Ballroom, Southsea.
- 16.—Atlanta Athletic Meeting; Southsea Rowing Regatta; Grand Aquatic Gala.
- 18.—Theatre Royal. A big Road Show, headed by that glamorous star of stage, radio and television, Eve Boswell.
- 18.-23.—Lawn Tennis "County Week" —Group 6, Men's at Canoe Lake Courts. Group 5, Ladies at Alverstoke L.T.C.
- 25.—Theatre Royal. One of the most popular of all variety stars, Vic Oliver, with his new show. This will be grand entertainment.
- 25.-30.—Portsmouth Cricket Week, St. Helen's Ground.
- 29.—Royal Ocean Racing Club—Channel Race.
- 30.—Cricket: United Services v. Portsmouth Football Club.
- 30.-Aug. 1.—Navy Days.

AUGUST

- 1.—Theatre Royal. The one and only Max Miller in his own show, with Nat Gonella and big company.

SPORTING EVENTS FOR JULY

- 5.-6.—Command Swimming Championships. Pitt Street. One Mile race will be held at Hilsa Lido at 1000 on 5th. At Pitt Street on 5th commencing at 1700 (Heats). At Pitt Street on 6th commencing at 1730 (Finals).
- 8.-9.—Royal Navy Athletics Championships (Plymouth).
- 9.—Southern Area Swimming Championships (Pitt Street).
- 13.—Portsmouth Command Swimming Team v. Jersey S. Club (Jersey).
- 15.-16.—Royal Navy Tennis Championships (Nore).
- 20.—R.N. Barracks Gala Day (Pitt Street).
- 21.—Royal Navy Swimming Championships (H.M.S. Ganges).
- 22.—Inter-Services Athletic Championships (Aldershot).
- 23.—R.N.A.C.(S) v. Surrey and Walton A.C. (Pitt Street).

CONGRATULATIONS

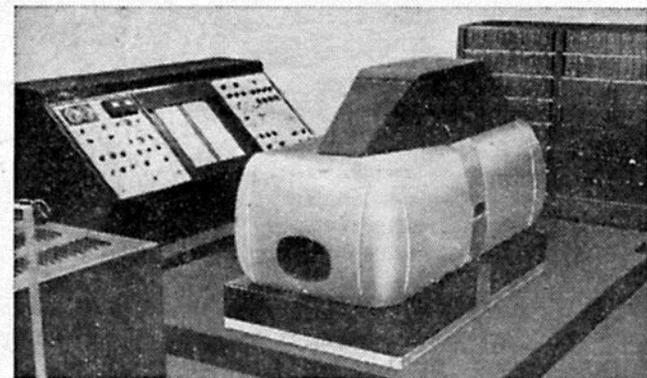
NAVY NEWS offers its congratulations to two Members of the Committee who have been honoured by Her Majesty the Queen in the Birthday Honours List.

Captain A. T. Phillips, C.B.E., R.N.
Inst. Cdr. J. S. Hewitt, O.B.E., R.N.

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BUCKS

Foreword by REAR-ADMIRAL R. E. LIBBY, U.S.N.

In the name of the thirteen thousand officers, enlisted men and midshipmen in the ships of the 1955 Midshipman Practice Squadron visiting Portsmouth this week, I extend our greetings to the British people and to the Royal Navy, and our thanks for your courtesy and hospitality in receiving us.

To me, the visit of this detachment to Portsmouth is in the nature of a reunion with old and honored friends. It was my privilege to visit Portsmouth several times during the spring of 1941, and to come to know and appreciate the courage, tenacity, and steadfastness of the British people under stress. It is a real privilege to return in these happier times, and to be able to offer to all the personnel of this detachment the opportunity to meet you, to establish new friendships and to renew old ones.

The Royal Navy and the U.S. Navy have long been brothers in arms, working together in two wars to defend the cause of freedom against those who would destroy freedom; now allied under the North Atlantic Charter and mutually dedicated to the preservation of the free world. This visit to your hospitable waters is a wonderful opportunity for all of us—and particularly for the midshipmen on board—to meet you and to further cement the ties of mutual respect and friendship between us. We are most happy to be here.

With thoughts of Summer leave

How pleasant to contemplate that period up the line—glorious days in which to do exactly as you please.

But are you fully prepared for this leave?

Don't leave it to chance—make a point of calling at a Bernard branch NOW and choosing your leisure wear from the fine range of Blazers—Sports Jackets and Trousers—Sports Suits—Shoes—Shirts—Swimwear—

indeed every possible clothing requirement necessary to add to the pleasure of your leave.

Should you not wish to pay cash for your purchases a credit account may be opened for settlement by monthly Admiralty allotment or Banker's Order.



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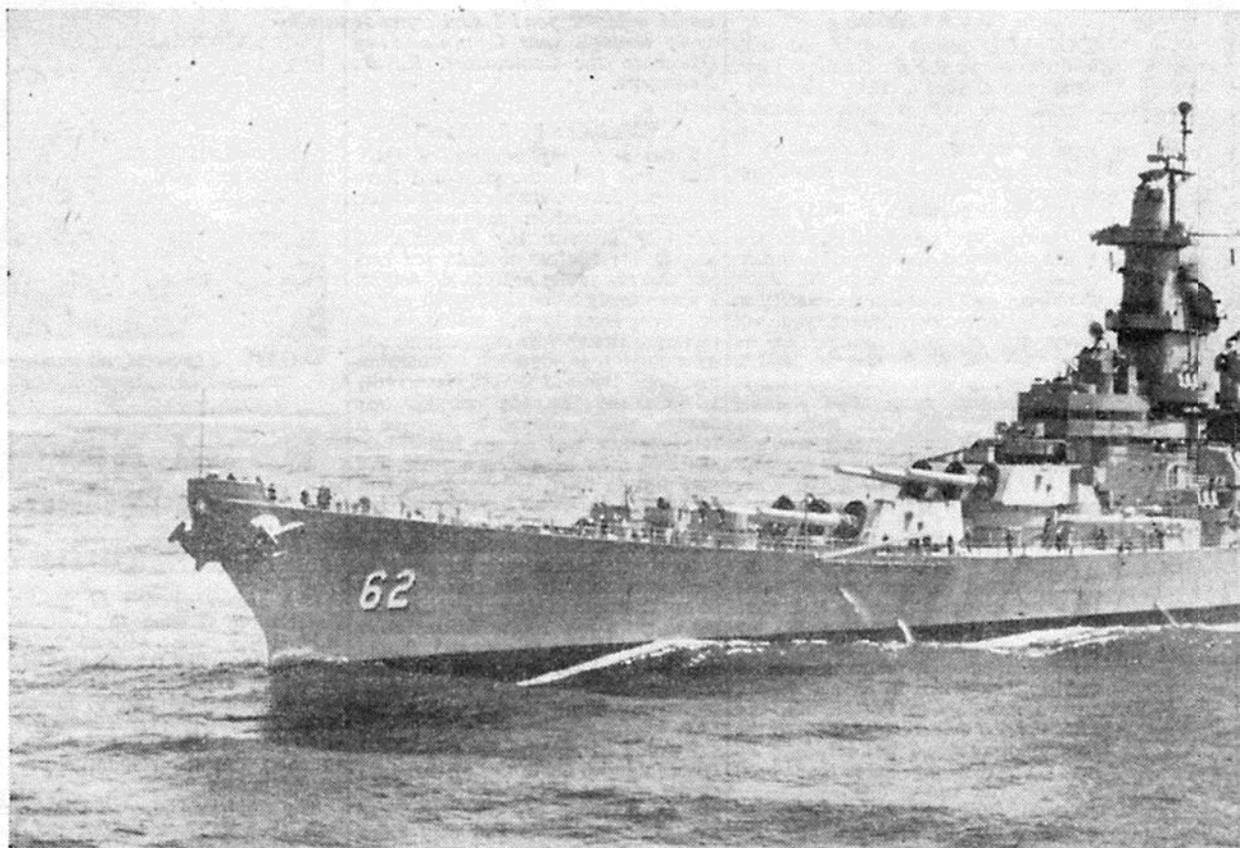
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UNITED STATES



U.S.S. NEW JERSEY -

COMMANDING OFFICER, CAPTAIN EDWARD JOSEPH O'DONNELL, U.S.N.

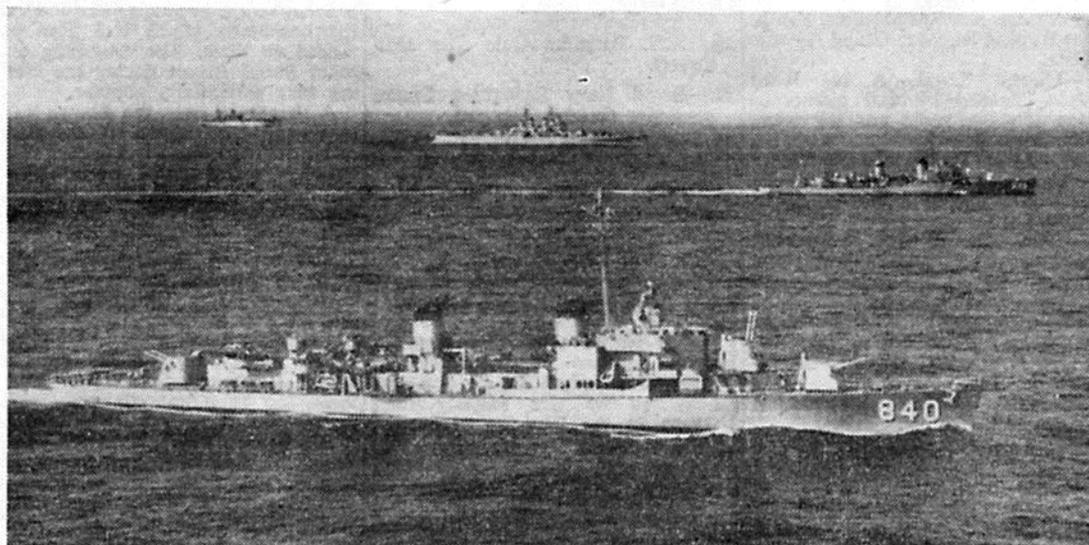
Built Philadelphia Navy Yard, 1942. Commissioned 1943. Displacement, 45,000 tons. Speed, 33 knots. Length, 888 ft. Beam, 20 5-in.. 80 40-mm. A.A.. 2 helicopters. Complement, 2,000.



U.S.S. BASILONE

COMMANDING OFFICER, CMDR. ROBERT S. DAY, U.S.N.

Launched 1945. Commissioned 1949. Displacement, 2,425 tons. Speed, 35 knots. Length, 390½ ft. Beam, 40½ ft. Draught, 19 ft. Armament, 4 5-in., 4 3-in. Complement, 350.

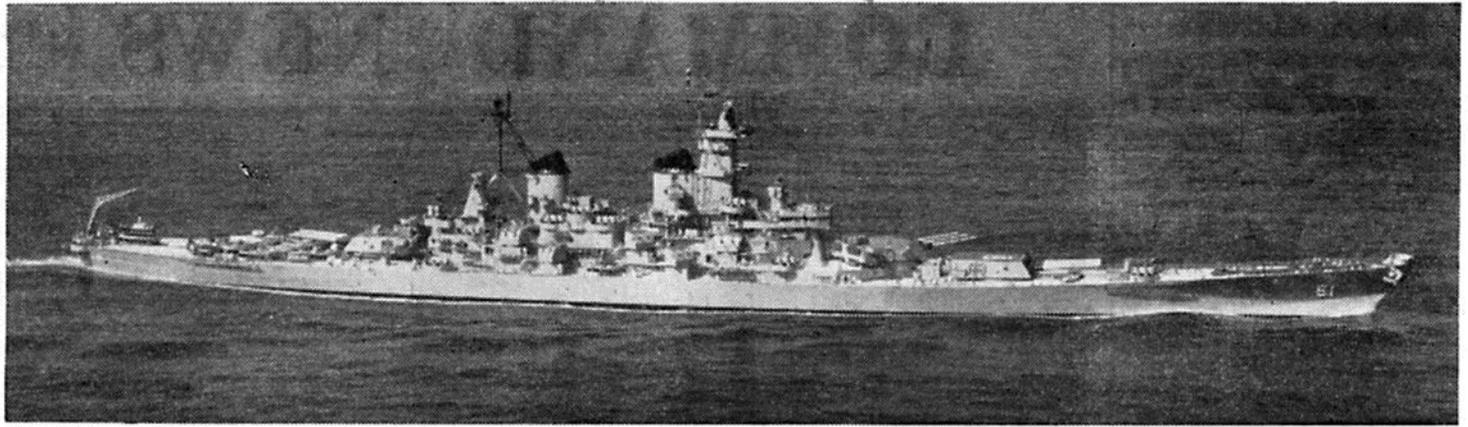
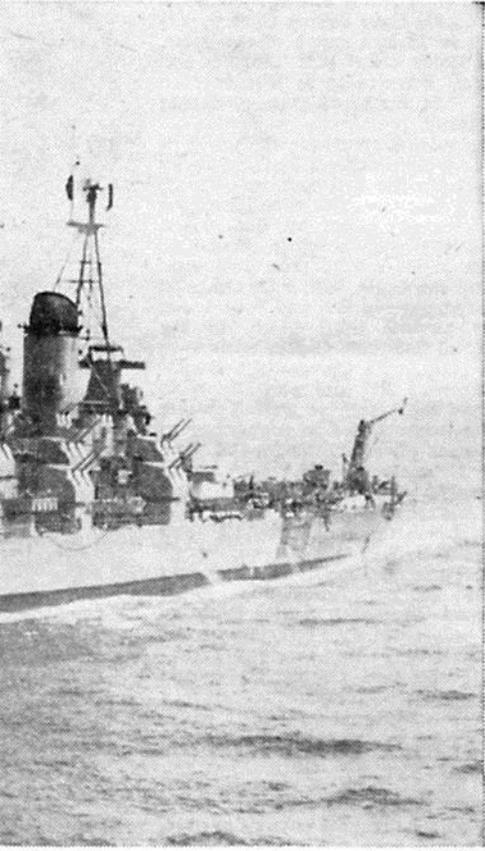


U.S.S. GLENNON

COMMANDING OFFICER, CMDR. W. R. McCLINTICK, U.S.N.

Launched and Commissioned 1945. Displacement, 2,425 tons. Speed, 35 knots. Length, 390½ ft. Beam, 40½ ft. Draught, 19 ft. Armament, 6 5-in., 8 3-in., A/S weapons, 2 hedgehogs, 1 depth charge rack, several K-guns. Complement, 257.

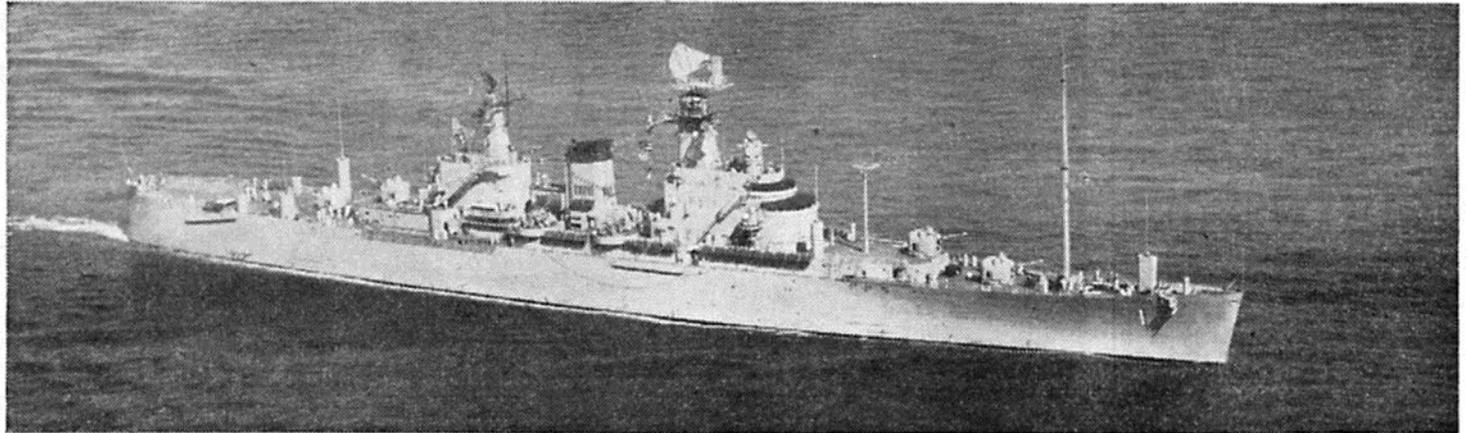
FLEET



U.S.S. IOWA

COMMANDING OFFICER, CAPTAIN WILLIAM C. BRYSON, U.S.N.

Built New York Navy Yard, 1942. Commissioned 1943. Displacement, 45,000 tons. Speed, 33 knots. Length, 887½ ft. Beam, 108 ft. Draught, 38 ft. Armament, 9 16-in., 20 5-in., 80 40-mm. A.A., 2 helicopters. Complement, 2,000.

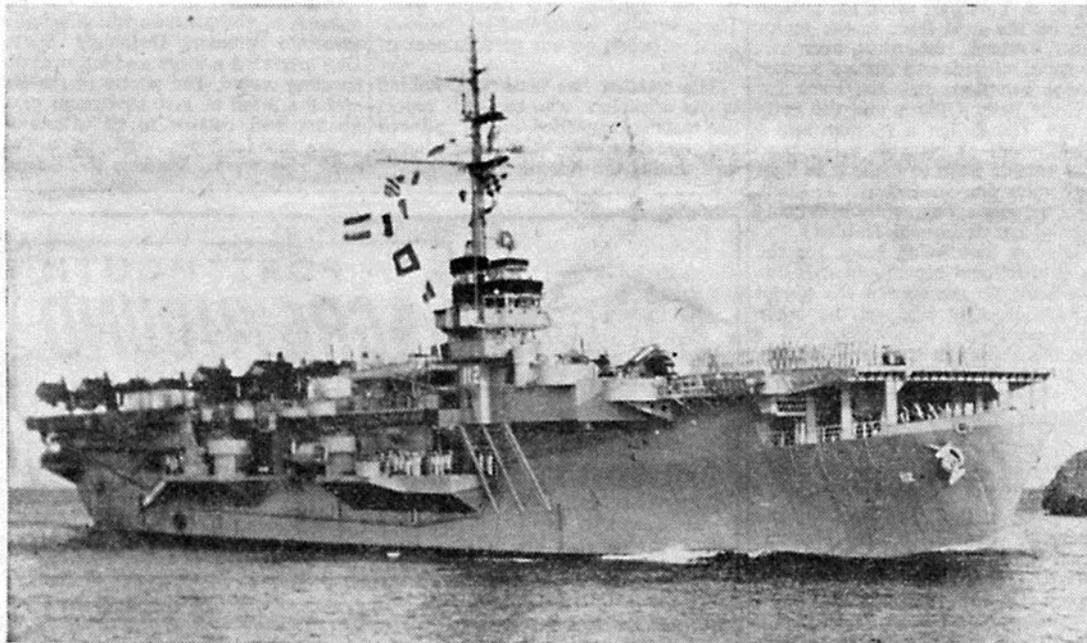


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Commissioned 1953. Displacement, 17,200 tons. Speed, 33 knots. Length, 676 ft. Beam, 71 ft. Draught, 29 ft. Armament, 4 5-in., 8 3-in. heavy A.A., 2 helicopters. Complement, 1,675.

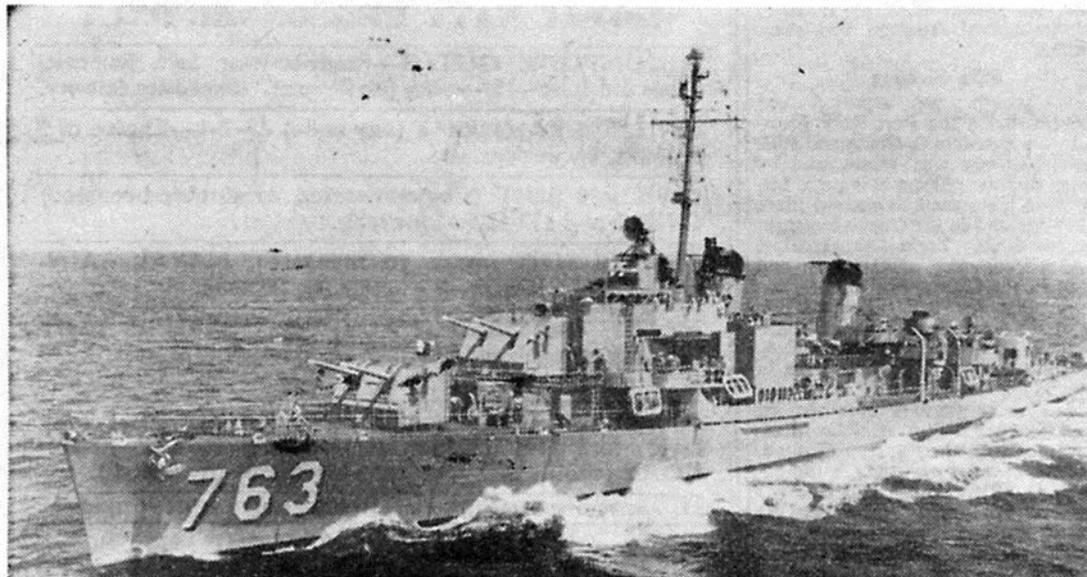
U.S.N.
108 ft. Draught, 38 ft. Armament, 9 16-in.,



U.S.S. SIBONEY, ex-FROSTY BAY

COMMANDING OFFICER, CAPTAIN G. K. FRASER, U.S.N.

Built by Messrs. Todd Pacific Shipyards, Tacoma, in 1944. Commissioned 1945. Displacement, 11,373 tons. Speed, 19 knots. Length, 557 ft. Beam, 75 ft. Width, 105 ft. Draught, 30½ ft. Armament, 1 5-in., 24 40-mm. A.A., 24 20-mm. A.A., 4 rocket launchers, 34 aircraft. Complement, 924.



U.S.S. WILLIAM C. LAWE

Launched 1945. Commissioned 1946. Displacement, 2,425 tons. Speed, 35 knots. Length, 390½ ft. Beam, 40½ ft. Draught, 19 ft. Armament, 6 5-in., 8 3-in., A/S weapons, 2 hedgehogs, 1 depth charge rack, several K-guns. Complement, 257.

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H.M.S. ALBION

IN A FEW weeks' time H.M.S. Albion will again be Mediterranean bound after three months spent alongside in dockyard hands.

H.M.S. Albion celebrated her first birthday on May 25 in C Lock, not quietly as her huge hull was still being scraped and repainted. She is now at Pitch House Jetty where a very thorough spring cleaning effort is being made by all departments and a large variety of stores is being embarked. We are wondering if the "Pussers" are getting any of the "Atomised" onions recently mentioned in the National Press.

Television

In the main dining hall and in the Chiefs' and Petty Officers' Messes television is proving a stronger attraction than the local cinemas. Five sets have been installed and enthralled audiences watch Miss Eunice Gayson and Miss Josephine Douglas harmonise beauty and brains. Many ratings are seeing serious plays for the first time in their lives and are speaking about the London Theatre with new authority. Rumour has it that even sailors on R.A. have stopped "warming the bell" and get home much later. We shall be slaves to the screen until we sail.

Those who went on our first cruise are hoping for a less tightly packed programme on this second leg of their commission. Disappointment that the ship visited only two foreign ports during her first cruise is keenly felt, but there is a strong buzz that we shall be enjoying the warm hospitality of a Scandinavian port shortly after the warm climate of the Mediterranean.

July will be spent doing a shake-down cruise and embarking our new squadrons of Sea Venoms, Seahawks, Avengers and Skyraiders. August should see us renewing our acquaintance with the Rock Apes.

H.M.S. MERCURY

MERCURY, PERHAPS more than other places, looks best in summer weather. This year has been no exception and with the increase of well-kept and newly laid turf surrounded by rustic fences, there is a great improvement in many of the more murky back regions.

During the last few weeks Captain Longden has been relieved by Captain Gordon Lennox. The former has left us to command the cruiser Birmingham, and he takes with him our best wishes for a happy and successful commission in the Mediterranean and Home Fleets. Captain Gordon Lennox has lately returned from Commanding the Mediterranean's Second Frigate Squadron in H.M.S. Mermaid. The Signal School is no strange place to him as he has served here before both on the Staff and as Executive Officer.

Our Annual Sports Day was a great success when it was held on Joe's Meadow on June 15. Our athletes broke many previous records, and the

COMMAND NEWS



The photograph shows the Portsmouth Command Field Gun Crew marching into Royal Naval Barracks with the Inter-Command Cup, after tying with Devonport for first place in the competition. Each crew obtained 20 out of 24 points, winning 8 out of 12 competition runs. This is the first time in the long history of the competition that a tie has occurred. It is also the first time since 1951 that any trophy has gone elsewhere than Devonport

weather must be considered one of these, as for once it was a perfect day! In the final results the Seamen and Miscellaneous Division won the aggregate Cup which was presented with the other prizes by Mrs. Gordon Lennox. The "funny" race was won by the rocket-assisted bath chair after a hot race with an early 18th-century tricycle and a penny farthing. It was unfortunate however that their advertised prize had been drunk before it could be given to the perspiring winners.

The entertainment officer exceeded his normal efforts when he put on for us a very good variety show, which came down from London with several well-known personalities. For this show we entertained some Canadians from the cruiser Ontario which was visiting Portsmouth at the time—they looked as if they were enjoying themselves and we hope they did.

At last there are signs of activity in the building world. Nearly all the neolithic age nissen huts between the Signal School Mess and the Chiefs' Block have been pulled down in preparation for the foundations of the new Mess and Galley block which is

to house the galley, canteen, and messes. Facilities for 110 C.P.O.s, 160 P.O.s and 720 junior ratings are being provided with an ultra modern galley, and large dining halls next door to it. This part is on the ground floor, on the next floor is the junior ratings' canteen, restaurant, beer bar, television, billiards and visitors' rooms; and the top floor has the same for the Chief Petty Officers and the Petty Officers. The design is modern and a large amount of glass is being used in the outside walls to make it as light as possible. The Southwester is likely to make it airy enough without it being a special constructional feature!

Plans are now being made for the new Instructional block, which is due to be built on the site of the Signal School mess—but this will be some time in coming.

By the time Leydene has got the new cinema, swimming bath and P.O.s block (1960?) we should be very well off on our hilltop!

H.M.S. OSPREY

ON JUNE 4, the First Lord of the Admiralty, Mr. J. P. L. Thomas, visited Portland and included our Tactical Training Unit in his programme. On the same day the Third Sea Lord, Admiral R. A. B. Edwards, C.B., C.B.E., on a separate visit to Portland, visited the Wardroom of H.M.S. Osprey at lunch time.

A full-scale local defence exercise, "Seaport IV," involved a number of Osprey personnel during the weekend June 4-5. The Seaward Defence Headquarters in Osprey was manned, and patrols were formed to guard the breakwaters of Portland Harbour against frogmen and other invaders.

Rifle Meeting

Last month we reported our achievements in the Port Rifle Meeting. In the Portsmouth Command Rifle meeting, Osprey was represented by a team of four officers and three ratings. This team secured second place to Collingwood in the Culme-Seymour Cup for Rifle, Team Snapshooting, out of a total entry of 42 teams; and second in the Goldsmiths' and Silver-Smiths' Cup for Rifle, Team Tiles, against 40 other teams. In the Individual Rifle Championships, E.R.A. Blackburn obtained second place in Class B.

There was glorious weather on June 1 when the Port Athletic Meeting was held on the Canteen Ground, Portland. Theseus won the Championship and 2nd Training Squadron the "Small Ships' Trophy" for which the Carriers are not eligible. Final placings were: Theseus 73, Ocean 57, 2nd Training Squadron 49, Osprey 46, and 2nd Submarine Squadron 30. For a long time we kept a close third behind the Carriers but were eventually overhauled by 2nd Training Squadron. We won the one mile and three miles (L. R. E. M. Ragg) and obtained second places in the Hop,

Step and Jump (Sub-Lieut. Ligert-wood) and in the one mile relay. In an event for a separate cup and not counting in the Championship, we won the Tug-of-war, beating Theseus in the final in two straight pulls. These results represented an improvement in points on our performance of last year.

The weather has been very unkind to our cricketers, who can only report two matches cancelled, one abandoned and one lost. We wish them better luck during the rest of the season.

It is in sailing that Osprey have achieved great things. Apart from Wednesday and Saturday races, which attract an average turnout of five dinghies, there have been three major events. On May 21 a team representing Portland Naval Sailing Association beat Castle Cove Sailing Club by 44½ points to 28 in a match of two races. Both teams sailed R.N. dinghies and a naval boat came in first in both races, P.O. Drake of Osprey winning the second.

The second event was the series of races for the Portland Sailing Dinghy Trophy. In the first race on June 2, Osprey won as a team and had the winning boat sailed by Surg.-Lieut. Coles. We were a close second to Ocean in the second race, and again one of our boats, with P.O. Drake at the helm, came in first and Surg.-Lieut. Coles secured third place. In the third and final race Osprey again won as a team, with Commander Ducat-Hammersley 3rd, and with Osprey in 4th and 8th places as well. The size of the teams varied in proportion to the size of the establishment and there were 22 starters. Final results were: Osprey 56; Theseus 49; Ocean 46; 2nd Submarine Squadron 41; A.G.E. 31; R.N.A.S. Yeovilton 18, and H.M.U.D.E. 7.

On Tuesday, June 14, the Portland Naval Sailing Association team trounced Weymouth Sailing Club by 71½ points to 49. P.O. Drake of Osprey won the first race and Lieut.-Cdr. Nickolls of Osprey, the second race.

H.M.S. DOLPHIN

THE SPECTACLE of mustangs running as though pursued by prairie fire would be magnet enough to draw the redskin from his primitive soliloquy; the annual pilgrimage to Epsom may well be another symptom of the same attraction, but the sportsman is he who, no matter the vicissitudes of weather, will suffer the agonies of personal discomfort to indulge his sporting fancy. Thus, with all the hazards of climate with which we now associate summer, Dolphin's Sports Day attracted a large and enthusiastic sporting crowd. The poetry of rhythm and the poise of fast movement gave picture and pattern to an afternoon which was rainless, and, on a few occasions, warm. Space is too limited



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H.M.S. Dolphin (continued)

to give details of individual events, but the Interdepartmental winners were Dolphin II with 71 points. Mrs. G. B. H. Fawkes, the wife of Flag Officer (Submarines), presented the prizes.

Anxious parents may well wonder what the appropriate form should be when Junior decides to pull a communication cord. Apart from the economic point that a post-war and nationalised facility may still be enjoyed for its pre-war price, there is the vicarious situation which the Dolphin Players recently gave us in "The Ghost Train." Ably produced and well acted it played to capacity houses during its run; features of the production were the sound and lighting effects—these were excellent and so well co-ordinated that the mounting suspense had many half sitting in their seats. This may well explain the secret of getting such capacity houses! "The Ghost Train," once switched into the sidings, gave the various messes social opportunity to demonstrate the friendly hospitality of the Peninsula to its guests. At the conclusion of the final performance, Flag Officer (Submarines), Rear-Admiral G. B. H. Fawkes, C.B., C.V.O., C.B.E., not only thanked producer and cast for a first class show, but called attention to those behind the scenes who had also contributed to the success of the performances.

Families Day

Our next activity is Families Day which has been planned for Saturday, July 23. In order to get an idea of what numbers to expect, your menfolk have been asked to supply the details so that arrangements can proceed with as little delay as possible. These lists will be closed on Monday, July 4. You can contribute towards the warm and friendly atmosphere of the Dolphin Peninsula by making a Personal Appearance—if your husbands are Dolphin menfolk then prod the male memory until you are assured that the invitation is in the bag; if the boy friend has not discussed the question, send your problem to John English. Viewed from Southsea the stretch of coast from Gilkicker Point to Dolphin Pier may not appear luminous nor inviting—yet in this Lilliput is a welcome beyond the headlines of advertisement.

H.M.

H.M.S. ADAMANT

"EXERCISE FISHPLAY" took us away from Rothesay on May 17, and five days later we arrived in Keflavik, a small town on the south-west coast of Iceland.

Shortly after we had anchored, the pipe of "Beer Issue" (two cans per man per day) was cheered by all aboard. We must have had a good stock as there is no sign of it running out.

One watch dashed ashore on the first night in, only to find that the Icelanders would not take Sterling for

would-be purchases. The following day, the currency tangle was straightened out, and Kroner and Script Dollars could be obtained aboard.

The Americans, in their base outside Keflavik, offered us hospitality, and it was there that shore-goers found the only entertainment to be had in the area. The Americans made us all very welcome throughout our ten-day visit as Base Ship to the units taking part in the N.A.T.O. exercise. British bell-bottoms were to be seen in large numbers in the clubs inside the base, and specially at the free "Hooch" sessions on Sunday afternoons. The Americans transmit and receive their own television. Films are flown out from the U.S. and some of us had the unique opportunity of seeing such favourites as Doris Day, Nat King Cole and Crosby on the T.V. screen.

Permission Refused

We had brought a Jeep with us but had failed to obtain the necessary permits. As soon as it was landed, the Icelandic police pounced with a speed that would have made a normal Cop look like a truant catcher. Later it was recovered by the Americans and brought back aboard. They loaned us one of their "float" of Chevrolet sedans.

The weather could have been better. One night, the U.S. Submarine Cavalla attempted the impossible and broke several ropes and wires trying to get alongside. She gave up in the end and decided to go back out to sea, taking a gangway and boom as souvenirs. Tapir, lying off and seeing what had happened, decided not to chance it. The same storm prevented seventy-odd liberty-men from returning aboard and they spent the night in comparative luxury in the Keflavik Airport Hotel.

Flag Officer Submarines, Admiral Fawkes, came aboard and the next day we steamed the few miles to Reykjavik. On arrival, F.O.S.M. escorted the Prime Minister of Iceland aboard and the Ceremonial Guard was inspected on the quarter-deck. It was an historic occasion for it was the first time an Icelandic Prime Minister had ever paid a visit to a British man-o'-war.

Organised Tour

During our three-day stay in the capital, an organised tour was arranged for British and American Servicemen. Nine bus loads travelled thirty miles through the Hot Springs Valley, from where almost all of Reykjavik is supplied with natural hot water, into the mountains to the site of the world's first parliamentary meeting in A.D. 930, where the Viking settlers set up a ruling body.

The ship's rifle team, which had practised on a heaving deck since leaving Rothesay, went ashore and were beaten by the Icelanders, 760 points to 677. Our football team, however, had a better time of it, and held Reykjavik "B" to a 1-1 draw.

On return to Keflavik, a Pulling Regatta took place with all depart-

ments represented amongst the twenty-eight crews. A tote was operated on the upper-deck and money changed hands between those with any left to juggle with. The rate of exchange is not in our favour, and the English pound doesn't stretch very far when ashore. Owing to bad weather, the finals could not be decided, so we will wait until the calm waters of Rothesay Bay are once more under our bows.

As we sailed for home, the Americans wished us a pleasant voyage and thanked us for our part in furthering the close relations between the N.A.T.O. countries.

We are now on our way south, and the thought uppermost in our minds is what are the chances of Long Week-ends in the event of the Rail Strike. We can only hope and keep our fingers crossed.

We have the trip to Rotterdam to look forward to on June 22, and I should be able to give you some news about it in the next letter.

Incidentally and in conclusion, I must tell you how impressed we have been to see N.A.T.O. in action as a team. It is quite a thing, for the Americans have put in a tremendous effort in Iceland to help keep the peace, and personally I am certainly glad that we are not called upon to serve one-year commissions on that wind-blown, lava-dust and rock desert.

DENEC

H.M.S. PHOENIX

WHAT HAPPENS if St. Swithin's Day is one of sunshine? Do we get clear days for the next forty or what? All this leads to a record for the sports fixture list, at the moment we are abreast of the interpart cricket fixtures. Top of the table on going to Press? A draw between the Chief and Petty Officers and Horsea. But there's another fourteen games to play before the season closes. Join Phoenix and get sunburnt for leave.

Thursday, June 16, saw a very happy party return from a day in London, guests firstly of the largest brewery in Europe, Guinness, Park Royal, then on to Earls Court for what was generally agreed by all Royal Tournament followers, the best show since the war.

Well done our Field Gun's crew. Next year let's see the pot for a whole year. At least the wedge is driven in Devonport's three-cup routine.

Our next big event is July 7, when an all-day match between the ship and the Phoenix Assurance Company takes place on the U.S. Officers' Ground. Last year, the trophy, a copy of Victory's old firebucket, was won by the Company, this year . . . well, we live in hope.



On Monday, July 18, the first "live" documentary to go out at peak viewing time, i.e., 8.15-9 p.m. will show what Phoenix really can do. Our last piece of news, is the new Phoenix pet, Skips, now eight weeks old and coming along well. Despite the fact that Skips is a vixen, the name was given to her by the Seamen.

DOCKYARD

CAPTAIN A. G. FORMAN, D.S.C., R.N., the new Captain of the Dockyard, himself a keen angler, is the President of the Portsmouth Royal Dockyard Angling Club. On Thursday, June 2, he attended the Club's monthly meeting and presented two outstanding N.F.S.A. (National Federation of Sea Anglers) awards to club members for fish caught in H.M. Dockyard. The winners were as follows:

- Mr. Prince (Black Bream, 3lb. 14ozs.), Silver gilt medal;
- Mr. Knight (Silver Eel, 3lb. 5½ozs.), Silver medal.

It is noted that only one silver gilt medal is awarded annually, being competed for by all N.F.S.A. clubs

in the country. When making the presentation, Captain Forman stated that although he was an ardent fly angler, he considered that all forms of angling provide the greatest relaxation after the toils of the day, food for thought for those who are unable to participate in the more strenuous activities in their leisure hours, particularly men afloat!

H.M.S. SIDON

MANY TRIBUTES have been paid to the gallantry and courage of the Men of H.M.S. Sidon, and messages of sympathy have been received from all parts of the world. To us in the Navy, this disaster has been a great tragedy, for these Officers and Men who lost their lives were part of our Service, and were our friends. To them, and to their loved ones, our tribute is one of simplicity and sincerity, in that—"We will remember them."

LIEUT.-CDR. G. K. NEEDHAM, R.N.

SURG.-LIEUT. C. E. RHODES, R.N.V.R.

LIEUT. J. RYCROFT, R.N.

TEL. C. CLAYTON, P/SSX 871290.

L./SEA. P. R. DOREY, C/JX 819932.

ACTING/L./SEA. D. G. DAVIES, D/SSX 835908.

A.B. J. R. FORD, P/SSX 898366.

L. McLEOD, R.C.N., 10242H, P2TD2.

COOK (S) P. RICE, P/LX 807734.

L./COOK (S) C. SMITH, D/MX 912901.

A.B. D. P. WAITE, P/SSX 835715.

M.E. (1) R. H. PEAKE, P/SKX 880829.

STEWARD J. R. SUNDERLAND, P/SLX 901679.

The following are among messages of condolence received at the Admiralty since the explosion in H.M.S. Sidon in Portland Harbour.

(from the Secretary of the U.S. Navy)
"Grieved to hear of the explosion and sinking of H.M.S. Sidon and tragic loss of life. Please accept heartfelt condolences of the U.S. Navy. Charles S. Thomas, Secretary of the Navy."

(from Admiral Robert B. Carney, Chief of U.S. Naval Operations)

"I am distressed to learn of the tragic accident to H.M.S. Sidon in Portland. On behalf of the U.S. Navy, may I convey our sincerest condolences to the Royal Navy. To the families of those who were lost, please convey my deepest personal sympathy."

(from Admiral Nomy, Chief of the French Naval Staff)

"Please convey to those concerned the deep sympathy of the French Navy concerning the accident to H.M. Submarine Sidon."

(from the Australian Commonwealth Naval Board)

"The Australian Commonwealth Naval Board have learnt with deep regret of the loss of life resulting from an explosion in H.M. Submarine Sidon."

"The Royal Australian Navy shares the sorrow of the Royal Navy at this tragic occurrence, and would express their sympathy with the relatives of those who lost their lives."

The Commander in Chief, Royal Danish Navy, through the British Naval Attache, has expressed his sincere sympathy with the Royal Navy in their loss.

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H.M.S. BELLEROPHON

Entertainment

ARRANGEMENTS have been made for the inclusion of the Portsmouth Division of the Reserve Fleet, for a B.B.C. Variety Show when this Naval series is re-introduced later in the year.

G.P.O. Telephone

It is not generally known that H.M.S. Bellerophon has a G.P.O. Telephone aboard. The number is Portsmouth 71726 and anyone who wishes to contact friends in the Reserve Fleet is advised to use this number, rather than going through the Dockyard exchange, as the latter method at times can be a lengthy process.

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Address _____
Age _____

cess. For those 'phoning the ship on a trunk call and for a particular person, the G.P.O. Facility of a Personal call is advised. Between 6 and 10.30 p.m. an additional charge of 9d. is made, regardless of the distance involved. By the use of this Service, no time charge is made until the person required is actually at the telephone. At any other time of the day this charge is 1s. 6d.

Painting Ship

The "paint ship" programme for H.M. ships Mauritius and Liverpool was completed in early June. This work, depending so much on the weather, had many setbacks, but by the time the Royal Yacht took up her moorings near H.M.S. Mauritius on June 2, the painting was almost finished. A rough estimate showed that over 3½ acres were covered by 4 tons of paint costing about £250.

Inspection of the Reserve Fleet by the F.O.C.R.F.

Vice-Admiral J. W. M. Eaton, D.S.O., D.S.C., Flag Officer Commanding, Reserve Fleet, made his official inspection on Thursday, June 16. In the forenoon he inspected the Ship's Company at Divisions and followed this with Messdeck Rounds. In the afternoon Storerom Rounds were carried out followed by "General Drill." No one was asked to "fry an egg at the masthead" but almost everything else was tried out. Exercise fires appeared in many places at the same time, boats were taken away under oars and brought back under sail, an improvised raft was lowered into the water and steered away—it almost capsized, whilst meanwhile, Officers and ratings alike were dashing about in the many tasks which are inevitable in the "General Drill" so peculiar to the Navy. Really everybody enjoyed themselves, and the Admiral too, who said he was very satisfied with what he had seen, in particular, the appearance of the Messdecks.

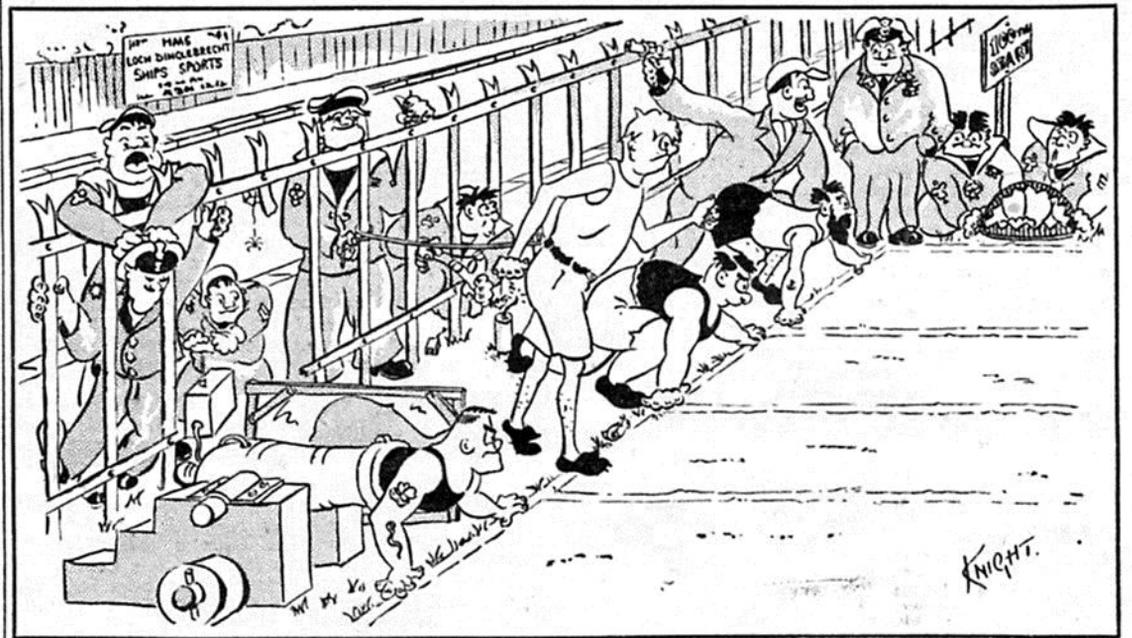
Cricket

The Reserve Fleet cricket team has been doing extremely well—Played 9 matches, Won 7, Lost 2, and these to H.M.S. Siskin and Diligence. The Sports Officer is sure that the two losses were just "flukes." Even the Officer's Team managed to beat H.M.S. Cleopatra. Any challengers? Contact the Sports Officer, H.M.S. Bellerophon.

H.M.S. Chieftain

H.M.S. Chieftain sailed on Monday, June 20, for her trials, having commissioned only recently. She has been under the wing of the Reserve Fleet for some time, and many friends have been made with her Ship's Company. We wish her a really good Commission.

Athletes All . . .



Come on Stokes . . .

Christening Aboard

The two children of L.E.M. Marshall of 219 Mess were christened aboard H.M.S. Mauritius on Sunday, June 12. The ceremony was conducted by the Reverend J. D. Bartlett, R.N., Chaplain to the Portsmouth Division of the Reserve Fleet.

H.M.S. STARLING

AFTER OVER two months refitting in the Dockyard, the good ship Starling emerged battered, but triumphant, from Dockyard hands and proceeded to shake-down into sea-going routine again. It was heard with relief that this "shore" job has been re-classified as home sea service. After preliminaries such as compass swinging and degaussing, Starling steamed to Dartmouth in company with Redpole and embarked a score of cadets for a week-end's training. The Whit week-end evenings were spent off Torquay and the libertymen enjoyed themselves to the full. "War" was declared between Starling and Redpole and the still night air of Torbay echoed from explosions long into the dawn, as only then did the raids die down.

Visit to the Hague

Back to Portsmouth to refuel and then nearly a day's steaming to Rotterdam where we were attractively berthed at Parkhaven alongside a main road and park. The Dutch Navy kindly provided us with a coach and shooting brake and various expeditions were made in these to Amsterdam, The Hague, and, of course, a brewery. The night clubs and bars proved great attractions, and these being open all night, many runs ashore didn't commence until 11 in the evening, with the disastrous results for those with regatta pulling practice in the morning.

Having shaken the beer of Holland from our ears, we continue our daily round of navigational training and emergency duties. We are looking forward to another "rest" when we visit Jersey in July, and then to a well-earned summer leave.

J.B.

H.M.S. DRYAD

ANNUAL SPORTS and Open Day was held on June 9. Though dull weather prevailed and the music unfortunately had to be of the canned variety, a large crowd of spectators enjoyed a programme of events in which five Dryad records were broken. A.B. Hartley cleared 8ft. 10in. in the pole vault, L./Seaman Shelton won the 220yds. in 24.6 seconds, 4 seconds better than the previous record. Lieutenants Fox and Armytage, running in the 120yds. hurdles, both beat 19.5, the former in 18.1 and the latter in 19.1 seconds.

Hemley's Record

Activity at the water jump in the under two mile steeplechase highly amused the gathering of children, not to mention the adults, who seemed to be secretly hoping that someone would perform an involuntary dive. Mistimed jumps, however, provided sufficient amusement in a well-run race. A.B. Hemley won in the record time of 10mins. 36secs.

Outstanding were the efforts of L./Seaman Lines who won the mile, 440yds, and 880yds. In the mile he was lying second until about 300yds. from the tape when he passed Cook Lees in a tremendous sprint to win

by 15yds. The Invitation Medley Relay was again won by H.M.S. Collingwood, who beat R.A.O.C. Hilsa by 1 second to win in 3mins. 6secs.

Mrs. R. G. Tosswill, wife of the Commanding Officer, H.M.S. Dryad, presented the prizes after receiving a floral bouquet from Miss Jennifer Lean and Miss Carol Eamer. The Inter-Divisional Cup was received by L./Seaman Horsfall on behalf of the winning Establishment Team.

The final team placing were—Establishment 138 points; Supply and Electrical 127; Frobisher and the Wardroom both 94; Raleigh 85; Franklin 84; Petty Officers 81 and Cook Div. 79.

Cadet Sports

In the Inter-Establishment Cadet Sports held at H.M.S. Collingwood, Dryad Cadets, though finishing in fourth place out of seven, managed to carry off the R.M.A. Cadet Corps Challenge Cup for Tug of War.

In the Monarch Bowl series, Capella (Dryad) with a 3rd and 1st in two races are equal with Meon Maid (Mercury), each 18½ points. The Royal Southern Yacht Club Calshot-Le Havre race was won by the French Yacht Avor II with Capella second on corrected time. This is a good start to the season. Dryad Water Polo Team having won all their matches except one, stand a good chance of heading the league table. In a friendly Athletics meeting at Dryad versus H.M.S. Ariel, Dryad gained 79 to Ariel's 65 points. Petty Officer Ellis has followed up his success at the Command Rifle Meeting by being selected to represent the Portsmouth Command at Bisley.

R.N. BARRACKS

Victory Gala Day

ON WEDNESDAY, July 20, Barracks will be open to families and friends of officers and ratings. Visitors will be able to visit the blocks and messes. Races, Competitions and Sideshows will be held in the Wardroom grounds before tea, after which, tea will be available for visitors in R.N.B. and will be followed by Tug-of-War, Victory Cadets Field Gun Run and the ceremony of "Beat the Retreat" by the combined Bluejacket and Royal Marine Bands. Pensioner civilians will be welcome.

It is hoped that the Gala Day will be opened officially by some well-known personality and that the prizes will be presented by Mrs. Evans.

Gala Day will be a general make-and-mend in R.N. Barracks and the dress for ratings accompanying their families and friends will be either uniform or plain clothes.

Sideshows will include: Crockery Shy, Aunt Sally, Coconut Shy, Hunt the Coconut, Slides, Treasure Hunt, Bobbing for Apples, Tricycles for small children.

Competitions

At the moment preparations are being made for: Flower, Fruit, Produce and Handicraft Show; Ankle Competition; Judging the Weight of a Cake; Bowling for a pig; Guessing the Number of Beans in a container, etc.

Races

consist of the following: Kiddies races—5 yrs. and under; 8 yrs. and under; 13 yrs. and under. Veterans races, including one for pensioners.

by D. B. Knight

Wheelbarrow race, Kiddies, ladies and men's sack races, Kiddies, ladies and men's egg and spoon races, Mothers' 60 yards race, Obstacle race for 16 yrs. or 14 yrs. and under, Thread the needle race, Band race.

Prizes

will be given for all competitions and races.

Tug-of-War

Four teams are required (one from each Group and one from the officers) to take part in preliminary heats prior to Victory Gala Day. The final will take place on the Field Gun Track at 1800. There is a large silver cup for the winning team. Present Holders: Howe Group.

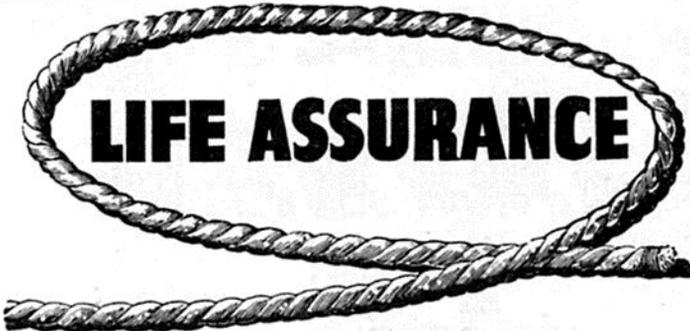
The intention is that everyone who works in Barracks—officer, rating, or civilian—should treat the Gala Day as the one occasion in the year when Barracks is "At Home" to all its families and friends. Last year, the occasion was a great success, and our aim this year is to do even better.

Welfare Committee

Members of the Welfare Committee and their guests enjoyed a "day out" on June 8. They travelled in one of the new R.N.B. Coaches to Windsor for a picnic lunch which was unfortunately marred by the rain. Then on to London for the afternoon. Tea was provided at the Gaumont in Hammer-smith and a most enjoyable evening was spent at the Royal Tournament. The vocal support from members of the party added considerably to the success of the Portsmouth Field Gun Crew, who, on this occasion easily beat Chatham. The congratulations of all in R.N.B. are offered to the Portsmouth Crew for their fine effort in equalising with Devonport at 20 points each at the end of a particularly close Tournament.

A very interesting and instructive visit to the local offices of the Royal Naval Benevolent Trust was made by members of the Welfare Committee on June 13. Members were able to see and hear exactly what happens when an appeal is received by the Trust for assistance. Many questions were asked and satisfactory answers were given in each case. The local officials were very helpful and it proved most enlightening to know just what goes on behind the scenes.

D.G.B.



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Name and address of advertiser must accompany each advertisement. Box Number, 9d. extra.

The inclusion of any advertisement cannot be guaranteed, nor responsibility accepted for errors or omissions.

HOUSES FOR SALE

GRAND OPPORTUNITY for navy man. Semi-detached freehold house near Royal Naval Barracks; bathroom, all electric; vacant possession soon; £650 or near offer. — Box No. "Navy News" 3.

HORNDEAN, just off main London road. Attractive detached double-fronted house, freehold; 3 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception, all with power and gas points; kitchen, conservatory, 2 indoor toilets, brick garage; main drainage; £2,300 (no offers); possession to suit purchasers.—Further particulars, 65 Catherington Lane, Horndean.

OVER THE HILL. Printed list of properties for sale post free.—C. Lovegrove, F.A.I. (Resident Agent), 2 Silvester Road, Cowplain, Waterlooville 3072.

GOSPORT. Two bedrooms (each with built-in wardrobe), bathroom (cycser and basin), 2 reception, kitchen, larder, conservatory; back entrance; excellent condition; £1,130. — 112 Highland Road, Southsea.

50, OXFORD ROAD, SOUTHSEA. Two sitting-rooms (modern grates), 2 bedrooms, kitchen, bath; redecorated; price £850. Vacant.—26 Anthony Grove, Elson, Gosport.

HILL SLOPES, DRAYTON. Detached architect-designed residence, originally built for R.N. captain, with uninterrupted views to Langstone Harbour, Isle of Wight and Solent; 2 double, 2 single bedrooms, sun balcony, breakfast, dining and lounge rooms, kitchen, conservatory, etc.; very large garage; magnificent garden; well stocked. This property has been well maintained and in first-class order throughout. 80% mortgage available. Price £3,250 or offers invited. Cost £1,000 more than above figure only seven years ago.—Haldon, Seaview Road, Drayton, Portsmouth.

ATTRACTIVE GEORGIAN RESIDENCE at Emsworth; 6 bedrooms, 4 reception, 2 bathrooms with airing cupboards, kitchen (Aga cooker), scullery, pantries, 3 toilets, oil-fueled boiler with supplementary immersion heater; 6 radiators in bedrooms, garage 2 cars; exceptional garden, 11 acres; greenhouse; all main services. Reasonable for quick sale.—Emsworth 2987.

DYSART AVENUE, EAST COSHAM. Well-equipped modern (immediate pre-war) semi-detached 3-bedroomed brick and tile house, recently completely redecorated internally with care and discrimination; garage; manageable attractive garden; 4 minutes Drayton shops and bus services.—Full particulars and appointment to view telephone owner, Cosham 78225.

SOUTH HAYLING.—Detached double-fronted house, 2 reception, 3 bedrooms, kitchen, domestic boiler, bathroom, separate toilets; brick garage with concrete drive; all main services. Offers over £2,800.—Box "Navy News" 6.

FARLINGTON HILL SLOPES, near bus stop. Semi-detached house, 3 bedrooms, 2 reception, kitchen, bathroom, garage; well maintained; nice garden. £2,195.—Write appointment to view, 16 Old Rectory Road.

TEMPORARY INVESTMENT. Six-roomed house, Camden Street Gosport. Tenant booked for Council house. Purchaser every prospect to claim possession within three months; Bargain, £270, or £50 deposit, balance 15s. weekly. Vacant valued £800.—2 Beryton Close, Gosport.

PORTCHESTER (outskirts Portsmouth). Modern detached semi-bungalow, view harbour, Isle of Wight; 2 bedrooms (1 pedestal basin, h. & c.), boxroom, lounge (25 ft. x 12 ft. 6 in., french windows each end), kitchenette, conservatory, bathroom, w.c. (basin, h. & c.), brick garage; terraced lawn, back, front fruit trees; central heating; main services; £2,500 or offer. Freehold.—Apply Owner, "Charisma," Pentland Rise, Portchester, Fareham. Phone Cosham 78883.

HAYLING ISLAND. Vacant possession architect-designed brick house, 5 rooms and bathroom, kitchen (both tiled), cloakroom, large garage; £2,950. No agents.—"Willow Hayes," St. Catherine's Road, Phone 72197.

WATERLOOVILLE (off main London road), quiet surroundings, semi-detached house, 4 bedrooms, 2 sitting-rooms, kitchen, Ideal boiler, bathroom, separate w.c.; large garden, detached garage; £2,650 or near offer.—Waterlooville 3498 for appointment.

BARGAIN, for sale Hayling Island, close station, completely furnished cottage; 4 good rooms, modern kitchen and bathroom, Ascot, electricity; £1,775.—Write Box "Navy News" 4.

DETACHED BUNGALOW, main Fareham-Wickham road; freehold; 2 bedrooms, lounge, dining-room, bathroom with wash basin, conservatory; wooden garage; best offer over £2,300.—Hazelidine, Hoads Hill, Wickham.

SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE, slopes Portsdown Hill, excellent view; only built 21 years. 44 Grant Road, Farlington. Large lounge, dining-room, very modern kitchen, all floors Marley tiled; 3 bedrooms, green bathroom suite, veranda; pleasant garden; brick garage; £2,850.

ATTRACTIVE well-built detached house; good garden, garage, all modern conveniences; reasonable price.—Emsworth 2810.

ALVERSTOKE, good residential area, 1938 semi-detached 6-roomed house in excellent condition; large brick garage, pleasant garden; £2,950.—Phone 89096.

GOSPORT.—Modern 3-bedroomed house, 2 reception, bathroom, kitchen with gas cooker, Ascot heater, veranda; newly decorated; good garden, garage space; £1,650.—65 Grange Crescent.

NEAR COPNOR BRIDGE. Modern house with garage for 2 cars; 3 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 toilets, square hall, lounge, dining-room, kitchen, nice garden; in good order throughout; price £2,150.—50 Highgrove Road, Copnor. Also at £1,500, 15 Shadwell Road, North End.

GOSPORT (off Eastbourne Avenue).—Double bays, 2 reception, kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, garden, rear entrance, garage space; £1,575.—Particulars phone Cosham 75629.

SOUTHSEA, £2,500 or near offer. Private house or two flats; 5 bedrooms, 3 reception, bathroom, separate toilet, kitchen, rear entrance.—Box "Navy News" 5.

HOUSE FOR SALE, 3 bedrooms, 3 reception and kitchen, bathroom and rear greenhouse; all redecorated throughout; near buses and stops.—18 Nelson Road, Landport.

£1,350, Near Angerstein Hall, North End. Completely redecorated; 3 double bedrooms, modern bathroom, 3 reception rooms, large kitchen, new tile surround ground floor.—Apply Owner, 17 Connaught Road, North End.

£795, OLD PORTSMOUTH. Vacant possession; 3 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 sitting-rooms, kitchen; redecorated.—Apply 7 Barrack Street, Portsmouth.

SIX ROOMS with large bathroom, garden, and four large bay windows. — 31 Farter Lane, Elson, Gosport.

£595. Offer. Freehold six-roomed house, modern grates; bath fixed; redecorated; needs small repair. Also bed and breakfast, £2 10s. 6d. weekly, 9s. 6d. night.—Apply 20 Willis Road, Gosport.

FAREHAM, near Collingwood. Houses for sale; 3 bedrooms, lounge, kitchen and bath. If you want advice on any subject contact E. F. Stroud, 163 White Hart Lane, Portchester.

TYPICAL COUNTRY PROPERTY for sale. Homesdale House and End Cottage, West Street, Hambleton. In all about 14 acres, £3,000. Homesdale, which is attached to End Cottage, is vacant. Mains water and electricity. Outbuildings include garage space. Rates: Homesdale, £21; End Cottage, £12. Homesdale: 3 large bedrooms, 2 large living-rooms, End Cottage: Same living space on smaller scale. Property eminently suitable for high ranking officer or retired gentleman requiring quiet comfort amid beautiful surroundings. — Apply Annice's Mead, Hambleton.

HOUSES FOR EXCHANGE

EXCHANGE. Modern semi-detached, 3 bedrooms, bathroom (wash basin and w.c.), 2 reception, hall kitchen, outside w.c., large garden, for similar or bungalow; near to Work-sop, Reading, Mansfield, Chesterfield. — Full particulars to 36 Redlands Lane, Fareham.

ADVERTISER would like to exchange self-contained flat in Portsmouth for accommodation in London.—Please write 121 Toronto Road, Portsmouth.

CARAVANS

CARAVAN to let, long or short periods, six-berth, separate kitchen, fitted with Calor gas stove and all conveniences, situated in delightful wooded country in the New Forest, swimming, fishing.—Apply Mrs. A. K. Whitaker, 58 First Avenue, Farlington, Cosham.

SITUATIONS VACANT

WEST OF ENGLAND Printing Company requires services of P.O. and wife as caretakers for recently acquired Wick Court, a large country house, near Bristol. Duties will include cleaning, catering for lunch for small daily management party, and care of gardens and greenhouse. Accommodation, with bathroom, on the premises, especially suited to couple desiring pleasant country house surroundings. No children.—Apply in writing to Partridge & Love Ltd., Wick, near Bristol.

TWO EX-NAVAL stores ratings for similar work with light engineering products.—Apply L. V. Pressure Controllers Ltd., 683 London Road, Isleworth, Middlesex

TRADE

DO YOU DESIRE HOUSE OWNERSHIP? Why pay excessive rent? House purchase with endowment assurance with reduced premiums by naval allotment ensures security for the future. — Write for full particulars, without obligation, to S. V. Norris, "Greenlyn," Beechwood Avenue, Waterlooville, Hants.

GOSPORT, LAWSON & COMPANY, Estate Agents, have in recent years assisted a great number of naval personnel to purchase suitable properties in the district. Enquiries welcomed and personal attention given without obligation. Mortgages arranged (at present 95 per cent. up to purchase price £2,000). A selection of modern houses and bungalows from approximately £1,500 upwards available with deposits of approximately £75 upwards. — Offices, 9 Brockhurst Road, Gosport. Phone 89566.

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FOR SALE

SINGER HAND SEWING MACHINE required.—Details and price to "Navy News" Office.

ROYALE HIGH PRAM, black cream lining; excellent condition; cost £20; accept £9 10s.—Mornings or evenings, 51 Duncan Road, Southsea.

MISCELLANEOUS

GREYHOUND RACING, Portsmouth Stadium, Target Road, Timor. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 7.15.

ACCOMMODATION

TWO UNFURNISHED ROOMS, use of kitchen and bathroom. — Apply 34 Westbourne Road, North End, Portsmouth.

TWO FURNISHED ROOMS, use kitchen and garden.—Apply 22 Radnor Street, Southsea.

COMFORTABLE FURNISHED FLATLET, own kitchen, every convenience; not suitable children. — 78 Northern Parade, North End, 6-7 p.m.

TWO NICELY FURNISHED ROOMS to let, every convenience.—25 Raglan Street, Southsea.

UPSTAIRS FLAT to let, furnished; 3 rooms and use of bathroom; unsuitable for children.—Apply by letter to Miss L. M. Fryer, 64 Lynton Grove, Copnor.

TO LET, two or three well-furnished rooms, suitable for naval officer, wife and child.—Tel. Emsworth 2810.

TWO COMFORTABLE furnished rooms, with kitchen; suit C.P.O. or P.O.; sorry, no children; terms, inclusive, 50s. per week.—103 Manners Road, Southsea.

TWO COMFORTABLE furnished rooms, moderate rent.—Write 49 Park Street, Forton, Gosport.

FURNISHED ROOMS to let, use of kitchen, bathroom.—59 Westwood Road, Hilsa.

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

COMFORTABLE ACCOMMODATION, bed and breakfast, or room only; hot and cold all bedrooms, at select guest house.—4 Kenilworth Road, Strand, Southsea. Phone 33519.

BED AND BREAKFAST. — Jeffery, 52 Locarno Road, Copnor, Portsmouth. Homey accommodation, moderate terms.

COMFORTABLE BED/BREAKFAST or room only; vacancies first fortnight July, August. Furnished bed-sitting-room, use of dining-room and bathroom.—Fancy, St. Just, 1 Devonshire Avenue, Southsea.

H.M.S. EXCELLENT

THE FIRST of June once again provided the occasion for our traditional annual reunion with the Queen's Royal Regiment, this year held at Stoughton Barracks, Guildford, the Queen's depot.

H.M.S. Excellent has a very strong affiliation with the Queen's Royal Regiment, which is founded on the participation of the Regiment in the battle against the French off Ushant on the Glorious First of June, 1794. The Queen's had troops in the Royal George, Defence, Majestic and Russel, and also in Lord Howe's Flagship Queen Charlotte. Queen Charlotte in later years became H.M.S. Excellent, and it is on this connection that our present-day strong liaison is based.

Last year the Regiment visited the Island, but this year they more than repaid our hospitality by inviting 20 senior and 40 junior ratings to a two-day programme of socials, cricket, basket-ball, baseball and dancing. Big eats were the order of the day and free beer and smokes for supper. The cricket match was won in the last five minutes by the Queen's and we have had reluctantly to part with the magnificent silver rose bowl presented by the Queen's for this competition.

Battalion Assault

Once again local inhabitants have witnessed the battalion assault on the Island. This time our neighbours have been more fortunate than in the past, as a subtle fifth column disorganised the defences before the smoke screen was lit.

The Queen's Birthday Parade, and preparations for the Whale Island annual tournament to be held on July 6 have also kept us busy.

This year, for the first time, training of the Royal Tournament field guns crews was carried out in the Royal Naval Barracks instead of in the Island. We were, however, able to be of a little help in making our track available to the second crew and feel some slight reflected glory in their success in being the first Pompey crew since 1949 to bring back a piece of plate and a set of silver medals to the port. We followed breathlessly what was the most exciting competition for some years with two out of the three trophies being an open go right up to the final performance.

With summer games in full swing and the rose garden in bloom, we are all in good heart on the Island and, lest we give you all the wrong impression, gunnery is still as important as ever.

H.M.S. AGINCOURT

SINCE OUR last report, the "Palace" has been refitting at Malta. To a very large part of the Ship's Company this has been an entirely new experience, but even so, we soon settled down to the new routines. Particularly happily, I might say, to that by which the Ship's Company worked only until 1300 hrs. at which time they were transported back by water to H.M.S. Ricasoli which has been our main abode for the duration of the refit period.

Many of us took advantage of the wonderful weather at the Fleet Lido—literally on our doorsteps—and we have acquired sunbathers that would make a film star green with envy! I think that I can safely say that in spite of all the trials and tribulations that go hand in hand with refits in general, ours was a roaring success.

For the summer cruise to start shortly, we go to Venice and Split in Yugoslavia. This "run" is eagerly awaited; not many of us have been to

In Memoriam
A. Smethurst, M.E. (1), P/KX 833744, H.M.S. Glasgow. Died May 31, 1955.
F. G. W. Tyler, P.O., P/JX 151207, H.M.S. Cobham. Died June 4, 1955.
See page 9 for H.M. Submarine Sidon.

either port before — or are likely to again for that matter. We all wonder if we shall find that Venice lives up to its reputation, if all the roads are really canals. As a city, Venice has almost as much of a history as Rome, and, of course, we have all heard the song about The Bridge of Sighs and read or seen the "Merchant of Venice." In contrast Split has an air of the unknown. We have little idea of what we shall find there as Yugoslavia is not a very well-known country.

It seems as though it will be some time before the Fourth Destroyer Squadron sails all together again. Our sister ship Aisne is even now being given the chipping, riveting and several other kinds of (mostly noisy) hammer, and other pneumatic nightmare treatment! We wish them the best of luck remembering our own, painful dose of it a little while ago. Corunna, too, has lately finished refitting at Gibraltar. At the time of

writing Barrosa is the only "running" ship.

After this cruise there will be but little time left of this leg of the G.S.C. before we sail to rejoin the Home Fleet in September. I don't think we'll be exactly sorry to leave the "Med.," with thoughts of our Home Port and Home Comforts in mind! We will say, though, that the commission has been a wonderful experience. J. Cogswell

H.M.S. FLEETWOOD

NOW THAT we have been received into the circle of sea-going ships, we find that there is not a great deal to drip about, and so this article ceases to be full of hidden sarcasm and grim humour and becomes nice and quiet and gentle. We have, however, just completed 14 whole days alongside the proverbial wall and the only time we actually moved was when the Redpole bumped us as she returned from sea. The Starling also gave us a couple of gentle digs as though to remind us that we were still alongside, but the truth of the matter is that we have done so much seetime in the last year that the water flowing past the ship's side has worn it down to paper-thinness and so we are waiting for the rust to get to work and thicken us up again.

On Saturday, 11th June, the Captain and officers gave a tea party and social "get together" for the wives, friends and families of the Ship's Company. The quarterdeck was festooned with trees (small) and little shrubs. Flowers and flags completed the picture, plus plates of cakes, not to mention the strawberries and cream. It was the first time that many of the wives had met. The final of the "uckers" match was played with the usual amount of swindling, and not even the players could really say who were the best swindlers. The real final, played next day, was won by A.B. Bair and Sig. Denton. The runners-up being Chief E.R.A. Griffiths and myself.

During a trip to St. Nazaire four of the Ship's Company went on a 90-mile cycle ride. Two of them on a tandem. The funny part of it was that neither of the riders had ever been on a tandem before and each thought that the other was a master of the art!

Ship's social news.—Marriages, 4th June, P.O. Murphy and Miss Patricia Lowe, at Portsmouth. Births, To P.O. and Mrs. Higgs the gift of a son, Stephen. **Count So-Vile**

Navy News Crossword—No. 12

A prize of £1 1s. will be given for the first correct solution opened on July 21

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12							13			
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49					50		51			52
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					55					
56							57			

CLUES ACROSS

- The cause of Tony's downfall.
- Separately.
- Three men in a boat are thus described.
- But one less bird is this.
- Beget.
- This material crinkles.
- Just me.
- The ankle.
- Consumed and aspirated causes dislike.
- Free from sin.
- A girl familiarly.
- In and out, up and down.
- Of the same family.
- A sort of cat—Phew! what a pong.
- Pretty old.
- Much older—at the time of primeval dawn.
- See 17.
- A lake.
- Formerly.
- Such an accident ends all.
- So does this letter.
- A lord, if not this, is spiritual.
- A very modern and discerning apparatus.
- Do not trust him.
- Jimmy has a beauty!
- This for art sake.
- The hammer god.
- 53 has lots of this.
- A double curve.
- Weighted down.
- Exhibitor of apparel.

CLUES DOWN

- They say its a modern dance.
- The speech of a race.
- Devour greedily.
- A poem originally sung.
- One a gasp, two you wear.
- Rather slow musically.
- It is sometimes necessary to do this to a race.
- A place of record.
- Display or muster.
- Salt resulting from vinegar.
- Away boarders!
- I measure the purity of oil—very difficult!
- Finishes.
- The point of a fork or antler.
- The aim of many from autumn to spring.
- A waxy membrane.
- This pon is pointed at both ends.
- The greatest of all vessels in the body.
- A comic illustration.
- Be patient with your ancestor.
- A finch of brilliant plumage.
- Often heard in the air raids in England, but now in the Far East.
- This is the last of the cow's four.
- Prepared for publication.
- Bag of this in the Andrew.
- Look closely at a lord.
- Puts you out.
- A Unit of energy.
- Secure with a needle.

SPORTS PAGE

R.N. SCHOOL OF P.T.

THE BIG event of the past month has been the Royal Tournament at Earls Court. In addition to the Field Gun Contest, which Naval personnel everywhere follow with great interest, there is another competition which is, perhaps, not so widely known. This is the Fencing Tournament. The P.T. School's particular interest this year, was the bayonet team which won the Royal Navy championship and proceeded to the Royal Tournament with high hopes. In spite of a gallant effort the team, led by Petty Officer Prior, lost to the Army and Royal Marines but beat the Royal Air Force. Prior did exceptionally well in the Individual Bayonet Contest, having to take part in a Barrage Pool (deciding pool) for first place and finished second. For this he was awarded a Duke of Gloucester's certificate. Lieutenant Winckles fought in the Final Pools of both Foil and Sabre for which he was awarded gold medals; a very creditable effort for a first attempt at the tournament. Sgt. Maker also won a gold medal for his display at Foil, in which he finished seventh in the Finals.

In the field of athletics we have unearthed a javelin thrower in L./Sea. Painter, a qualifier, who won this event in the Barracks athletic meeting. P.O. Buck, a fine sprinter, although suffering from a knee disability, ran first in the 100 yards and 220 yards, and, as was expected, C.P.O. Harvey and P.O. Wieland threw the discus and shot with practised ease. The School entered only individuals this year, as it was suggested that potential and established Physical Trainers would walk away with the Divisional trophy. This fallacy is not supported by the majority of P.T.s., but, as it happened, events proved correct in this case!

Congratulations to P.O. Cannon, who has been elected Portsmouth Command Lower Deck Hockey representative, for the forthcoming hockey season.

In conclusion, we mention those who have swum for the Command Swimming Club. P.Os, Ogden and White and A.B. Brewerton, who plays in goal for the Royal Navy Water Polo Team. They have been a very successful trio.

ROYAL TOURNAMENT FENCING RESULTS

Foil
1st—Sgt. R. A. C. Thompson, R.M.
4th—C./Sgt. D. F. C. Mackenzie, R.M.
6th—C./Sgt. R. B. Martin, R.M.
7th—Sgt. L. Maker, R.M.
8th—Lieut. H. A. Winckles, R.M.

Epee
1st—Lieut.-Cdr. R. A. St. C. Sproul-Bolton, O.B.E., R.N.
4th—Lieut. F. Creagh-Osborne, R.N.
5th—Sgt. C. Rees, R.M.

Sabre
1st—Sgt. R. A. C. Thompson, R.M.
2nd—C./Sgt. D. F. C. Mackenzie, R.M.
3rd—C.P.O. S. Johnson.
8th—Lieut. H. A. Winckles, R.N.

Bayonet
1st—Sgt. R. A. C. Thompson, R.M.
2nd—P.O. R. R. Prior.
3rd—R.S.M. J. Rendles, R.M.
4th—R.S.M. J. Rendles, R.M.
5th—Sgt. J. Lake, R.M.
7th—P.O. R. R. Prior.

Bayonet Team Combat
1st—R.M.B. Eastney.
3rd—R.N. School of P.T.

Dismounted Champion-at-Arms
1st—Sgt. R. A. C. Thompson, R.M.—24 points.
3rd—C./Sgt. D. F. C. Mackenzie, R.M.—12 points.
4th—Lieut.-Cdr. R. A. St. C. Sproul-Bolton, O.B.E., R.N.—8 points.
5th (equal)—P.O. R. R. Prior—7 points.
7th (equal)—C.P.O. S. Johnson—6 points.
Cpl. E. Savage, R.M.—6 points.

VICTORIA BARRACKS SPORTS

A KEEN competitive spirit was shown by the four divisions taking part in the Victoria Barracks Sports. The challenge trophy was won by Fraser Division with 30 points; Ramsay Division was second with 25 points, and the Ship's Company and Officers, Chief P.Os. and P.Os. followed with 23 and 12 points respectively. Ramsay and Fraser are New Entry Divisions, and the majority of their competitors had been in the Royal Navy for only two weeks; we congratulate them on a fine



performance. They had a great fight for the trophy, the final issue only being decided by the last race.

Mr. Ashley, an ex-Royal Marine, aged 88, won the veterans' race by a short head from Instructor Lieut.-Comdr. Holt; he instructed a great victory. The tug-of-war trophy was retained by the C.P.Os., who have now won it for three years in succession.

The prizes were presented by Mrs. W. Wallace Muir.

Congratulations to:
C.P.O. S. Johnson, S.P.T.I., for reaching third place in the Final Pool of Sabre at the Royal Tournament.

Coder M. P. F. Blakiston on reaching the semi-finals of the singles and the final of the doubles in the Portsmouth Command Open Tennis Tournament.

CRICKET

THE RESULT of the 2nd Round of the Inter-Command Cricket Knock-out Competition was as follows:

Excellent 120-9 v. Vernon 105-7.
St. Vincent 100-7 v. R.N. Writers 49.
Hornet 197-5 v. Collingwood 58.
Dryad 49 v. R.M.B. 49-1.
Daedalus v. R.N.B. (walk-over).
R.E.M.E. 19 v. Victoria Barracks 154-2.
Cleopatra 77 v. Portsmouth Squadron 78-5.
Reserve Fleet 102-8 v. Siskin 62.
The draw for Round 3 is below:
St. Vincent v. Excellent.
Reserve Fleet v. R.N.B.
Victoria Barracks v. R.M.B.
Portsmouth Squadron v. Hornet.

FINAL RESULTS OF FIELD GUN COMPETITION

Points—Portsmouth 20, Devonport 20, Air 17, Chatham 13.
Aggregate Chatham
Devonport—43 mins. 23 1/5 secs.
Portsmouth—45 mins. 17 3/5 secs.
Air—46 mins. 37 4/5 secs.
Chatham—48 mins. 53 4/5 secs.
Fastest Time
Devonport—3 mins. 25 4/5 secs.
Winner of Inter-Command Cup—Portsmouth and Devonport.
Winner of Aggregate Cup—Devonport.
Winner of Fastest Time Cup—Devonport.

HOME FLEET SPORTS

WHILST AT Portland, the first two of a series of Fleet Sailing races were held:—

Ewart Cup (Ratings' Whaler) won by R.P.O. Johnson, H.M.S. Bermuda. Hornby Cup (Officers' Whaler) won by Lieutenant Commander Vaughan-Lewis, H.M.S. Theseus.

At Invergordon, after various trial matches, the Cricket Competition was started and, on June 9, a large entry competed in the traditional "Obstacle Whaler" race, which has now replaced the pre-war "Crash Cutter" event. The results of this were:—

1st, H.M.S. Bermuda; 2nd, H.M.S. Tyne; 3rd, H.M.S. Undine; 4th, H.M.S. Glasgow; 5th, H.M.S. Urania; 6th, H.M.S. Tyne; 7th, H.M.S. Tyne; 8th, H.M.S. Glasgow; 9th, H.M.S. Virago.

The annual Fleet Golf and Tennis Tournaments were also held at Invergordon. Results:—

Golf
Singles.—H.M.S. Bermuda.
Foursomes.—H.M.S. Bermuda.

Tennis
Singles.—H.M.S. Bermuda (Midshipman Rodd).
Doubles.—H.M.S. Tyne (Cdr. Pearson and Lieut.-Cdr. Chacksfield).

PORTSMOUTH COMMAND SWIMMING AND WATER POLO

ON JUNE 9th the Southampton County Borough S.C. were entertained at the R.N. Baths with the following result:

Swimming and Diving (Men and Women)
Portsmouth Command, 54 points.
Southampton C.B.S.C., 51 points.

Water Polo
Portsmouth Command, 6 goals.
Southampton, 1 goal.

On June 15th, the Command team travelled to Worthing where they competed against Worthing S.C. The results were:

Swimming and Diving (Men and Women)
Worthing S.C., 50 points.
Portsmouth Command, 48 points.

Water Polo
Worthing S.C., 6 goals.
Portsmouth Command, 3 goals.

The Command Swimming and Diving Championships will take place at the R.N. Bath, Flathouse Road, on Tuesday, July 5th, at 1700 (Heats) and on Wednesday, July 6th, at 1730 (Finals).

The One Mile Freestyle and Diving events will take place at the Ulsea Lido at 1000 on Tuesday, July 5th.

PLYMOUTH COMMAND ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

THE FOLLOWING are the results of the Plymouth Command Team Athletic Championships held at the Brickfields on Wednesday, June 15th, 1955:

Team Totals:
R.N.E. College, 109 points (winners of Command Athletic Trophy).
R.N. College, Dartmouth, 85 points.
R.N. Barracks, 69 points.
Fishguard, 56 points.
R.M. Barracks, 13 points.
Reserve Fleet, 5 points.

The best individual results were:

High Jump
Sub-Lieut. Pattinson, R.N.E.C., 5 ft. 10 ins.

Pole Vault
Sub-Lieut. Jones, R.N.E.C., 10 ft. 9 ins.

880 Yards
Lieut. Mitchell, R.N.E.C., 2 mins. 4.9 secs.

Long Jump
Cadet Lindley, R.N.C., 20 ft. 0 1/2 in.

440 Yards
Sub-Lieut. Marshall, R.N.E.C., 51.7 secs.

Hop, Step and Jump
S.A. Humble, R.N.B., 41 ft. 0 1/2 in.

Mr More for Less

says

"TAKE A TIP FROM ME—
I roll my own cigarettes the Rizla way and get a better, fresher smoke—
thick or thin—
long or short,
as and when
I want them, and
(believe it or not)
IT COSTS
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Follow my example—
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papers, filter tips,
can save £££'s in a year
and its cost in a day



RIZLA

CIGARETTE PAPERS
FILTER TIPS
ROLLING MACHINES

M.T. AND R.E.

ONCE MORE these mystical letters appear in NAVY NEWS and for the benefit of the uninitiated we will once more translate them — Mechanical Training and Repair Establishment.

There is a definite unshaking of the "hush in the close" these days. The even tenor of our ways; the quiet buzzing of machinery; the gentle clinking of hammer and chisels on test jobs—all seem infused with a new vigour as an actual decision has been made about the future whereabouts of the M.T. & R.E. Those who prophesied Scapa Flow or the Isle of Man have been proven wrong, but the gigantic organisation that will leap into action at the given word, could easily cope with a move to Tierra del Fuego or Trinecomalee—only it would take a little longer than transferring to H.M.S. Siskin, Hampshire.

The M.T. & R.E. Cricket Club has had so far the most successful season in its history. Twelve matches have been played of which seven have been won, four lost and one tied. The weather has been much kinder this season than last; only one fixture has been affected and that has been rearranged and played. The previous highest innings of 127, has been surpassed on no fewer than three occasions to date and the new record is 220 which was totalled against the Engineering and Electrical Department of H.M.S. Vernon. The runs made have been shared almost equally between about eight of the players, with P.O.M.(E)s Chapman and Lodge heading the averages with 20 and 17

respectively. These two batsmen have also had the best innings this season with P.O.M.(E) Lodge's 74 against Fishbourne Cricket Club and P.O.M.(E) Chapman's 73 against the Engineering and Electrical Department, H.M.S. Vernon.

A most enjoyable dance was held in 115 Mess on Friday, 17th June. The dance was jointly the "D" Class passing-out jamboree and the Mechanicians' end-of-term function. It was attended by Rear-Admiral N. E. Dalton, O.B.E., and Commodore C. L. G. Evans, C.B.E., D.S.O., D.S.C. A good time was had by all.

The end-of-term prizegiving was held on Wednesday, 29th June, and this was combined with an "At Home" when relatives and friends were shown round the establishment. The prizes were distributed by Rear-Admiral I. G. Maclean, C.B., O.B.E., Deputy Engineer-in-Chief.

The Admiralty Prize for Practical Work went to Mechanician 3rd Class J. W. Leng. The prize for technical subjects was awarded to Mechanician 3rd Class J. H. F. Somerset and the "Morrell" Trophy for the best all round mechanic candidate in 87 Class to Mechanician 3rd Class B. J. Chance. All 50 candidates passed the Admiralty examination and received their certificates at this function, whilst 27 H.E.T. Certificates were presented, together with no fewer than 21 Certificates of Education qualifying for Branch rank, a record of which all concerned may be proud.

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