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October 27—First Wartime Navy Day

Tuesday, October 27, 1942, will mark the 21st annual observance of Navy Day, and the first ever held in wartime.

This special day for honoring our Navy and its fighting men was first set aside in 1922, oddly enough the same year that steps were being taken to scrap our fleet under terms of the Washington Arms Limitation Treaty. It was sponsored by the Navy League of the United States, a volunteer association seeking to place information concerning the Navy before the public. Since that time, the official approval and cooperation of practically all patriotic and veterans' organizations have been offered in support of the observance of this day.

October 27 was selected as Navy Day because it is the anniversary of the birth of Theodore Roosevelt, so much of whose life was given to establishing a vigorous naval policy for the United States. It will be remembered that Teddy Roosevelt first achieved a national reputation by writing a naval history of the War of 1812, a work later incorporated into Clowe's Royal Navy, a monumental history of the British sea service. Later as Assistant Secretary of the Navy and finally as president, T. R. bent his tremendous energies to the task of impressing the American people with the need for an adequate Navy.

Another reason why October 27 is commemorated as Navy Day is because on that day in 1775 the first resolution to authorize construction of American warships was introduced into the Continental Congress, a measure that was passed three days later.

In peacetime years, the ships of our battle fleet participated spectacularly in the celebration of Navy Day with banners flying, and men and officers in full dress uniform parading the decks. October 27, 1942, will find our ships in drab war paint scouting the high seas the world over, their big guns and fast flying planes roaring death and destruction on the enemy, with our battle-begrimed seamen in the midst of the hell of shot and shell that is modern naval warfare.

Today ours is a fighting Navy—and since its recovery from the shock of Pearl Harbor—a highly successful fighting one.

In keeping with the spirit of the time, the Navy League has announced that the slogan for Navy Day, 1942, shall be: YOUR NAVY—FIRST LINE OF ATTACK.

At this time when our country and our freedom are again in peril, it might be well to glance back for a moment to those days in 1775 when the first armed vessels were ordered by Continental authority to set sail upon the vaguely-charted seas. Those tiny wooden ships flew a new flag and were scoffed at by the admiralty of our enemy with its grand fleet and sturdy naval tradition.

But the laughter that shook the sides of over-confident foes turned to respect as those early fighting ships, crude as they were, recorded win after win in our early fight for freedom. Our seamen won those victories because they had the will to win. They were men fighting for freedom, not counting the cost of victory for they knew the cost of defeat. And so today the men of our fleet are giving splendid account of themselves because they have the will to win, and they too know the price of defeat.

How to Avoid the Obstacle Course



By LIEUT. ERIC H. ARENDT
Chaplain Corps, USN

There is no more revered term in the Navy than "shipmate." Even the term "friend" does not mean quite the same. The close relationship which "shipmate" implies is not only a tie of friendship, but one of sharing, understanding, and mutual interest. So close is this relationship that mere words cannot adequately express it.

Something which approaches a meaning of "shipmate" is seen among the cadets as they band together—and attempt to stay together because of the intangible, indescribable "tie that binds." Even these close associations, important and significant as they are, cannot mean quite the same as being a "shipmate."

The Navy Department has at this writing announced the loss of three of its heavy cruisers, namely: U.S.S. VINCENNES, U.S.S. ASTORIA, and the U.S.S. QUINCY. Having served aboard the last of these vessels, and having experienced the closeness, not only to the ship itself, but to those whom I proudly call "shipmates," I find news of this kind comparable, no

less, to news of death to an immediate family member.

When one has lived aboard with others in close quarters, sometimes for long periods of time, through fair weather and foul, eating, playing, working, and sharing together, he realizes the true significance of what "shipmate" means. In this you have a great experience awaiting you, which will become more meaningful as time goes on.

In preparation for this experience of living aboard ship, each one must strive to make himself worthy. You MUST learn to live with persons of all temperaments. You MUST learn the rules and play the game according to those rules. You cannot expect to get away with anything when you live in the intimate closeness of shipboard life. You are what you are in the eyes of those about you—and those eyes are all-seeing.

When you have left a vessel to take

up duties elsewhere, or when your associates leave, the most honored expression that can be said about you is "he was a friend and shipmate." And when someone in the service says to you, "I hope we will be shipmates someday," accept it in the spirit in which it is given—the highest expression that a Navy man is capable of saying.

Sunday Divine Services

- Catholic: Communion Service 0615, Gerard Hall, Mass 1030, Kenan Stadium
Jewish: 1000, Hillel House
General Protestant: 1000, Memorial Hall

After "lab."... pause and

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