

CLOUDBUSTER

Vol. 1—No. 12

SATURDAY, DEC. 12, 1942

Published weekly at the U. S. Navy Pre-Flight School,
Chapel Hill, N. C.

Under supervision of the Public Relations Office.



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Pre-Flight Training as Model for Schools

From the beginning of the Pre-Flight training program last spring, physical education leaders, newsmen, and visitors generally who have seen first hand how the Navy is conditioning its future fliers have been unanimously enthusiastic in their response to the present naval aviation physical fitness program. It was evident from the start that features of the Pre-Flight program would have a contagious influence on physical education in high schools and colleges throughout the country.

Writing in the January issue of *Esquire*, nationally known sports-writer Herb Graffis terms the Pre-Flight training program an ideal pattern for physical education directors to follow in correcting the condition of flabbiness and softness prevalent among American youth.

Says Mr. Graffis: "From athletic directors and coaches there comes testimony indicting school administrators for a serious neglect to help high school and university students face the realities of a naughty world. The physical educators have observed an alarmingly large per cent of students who are almost psychopathically adverse to sports competition, especially of the contact type. . . ."

"The first thing the Pre-Flight Schools proved was that American young men could not be frightened by the certainty of a schedule of sweat, strain, fatigue and rough man-to-man competition. Publicity on the Pre-Flight Schools was thought by some to accent the severe grind to the extent that some potentially excellent naval aviators softened by neglect of physical conditioning in school would be discouraged as candidates. In actual practice the publicity worked the other way. The boys considered the Pre-Flight test a challenge. It has to be said that the Navy Pre-Flight experience confirmed the recruiting lesson learned by the marines who've gathered a great array of battling talent by playing their traditional 'first to fight' tune.

"Second, the Navy's Pre-Flight Schools have demonstrated that the time can be had for adequate conditioning of school students by smart management. Although the Pre-Flight course is 50% physical training during a 12-weeks' period due to the necessity of putting later stress on technical education of students, the features of the Pre-Flight course can be introduced into school schedules without overburdening scholars."

While the prime objective of the Pre-Flight course is to give needed training to naval cadets, an important effect of the program is the adoption of some of its main features by high schools and colleges, thereby reaching thousands of youths soon to enter one of the fighting services. In the words of Mr. Graffis: "Events from the Pre-Flight Schools' programs inevitably will become standard in high school and college intramural and extra-mural athletic routines."

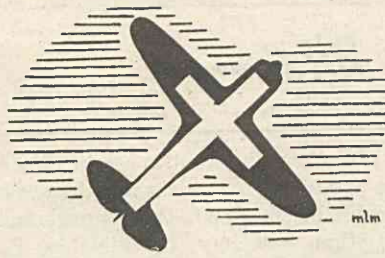
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By LIEUT. ERIC H. ARENDT
Chaplain Corps, USN

The first "Pearl Harbor Day" has come and gone. Not one of us during the 24 hours of that day, could detach ourselves from the significance of Dec. 7, 1941, and its effect upon our lives. Only 52 weeks after "Pearl Harbor" the life of each American has been changed from a relatively easy-going, take-it-for-granted way, to one of seriousness and determination. And what has that got to do with religion?

Religion has taken on a new significance since Pearl Harbor. People are turning back to God as they have throughout the centuries during times of great stress. More persons are going to church—more persons are realizing, some for the first time in their lives, that the very principles for which we are enlisted are not different from those which the Church has been teaching.

The time for *passive* religionists is no more. The principles for which the "American Way" has stood throughout its proud history are those which have been founded upon a rock and are those for which, consciously or unconsciously, we are fighting.

Many of us re-dedicated ourselves anew on this first anniversary of "a day of great infamy." We made a new resolve. We pledged ourselves and our resources. We are "all out" for victory.

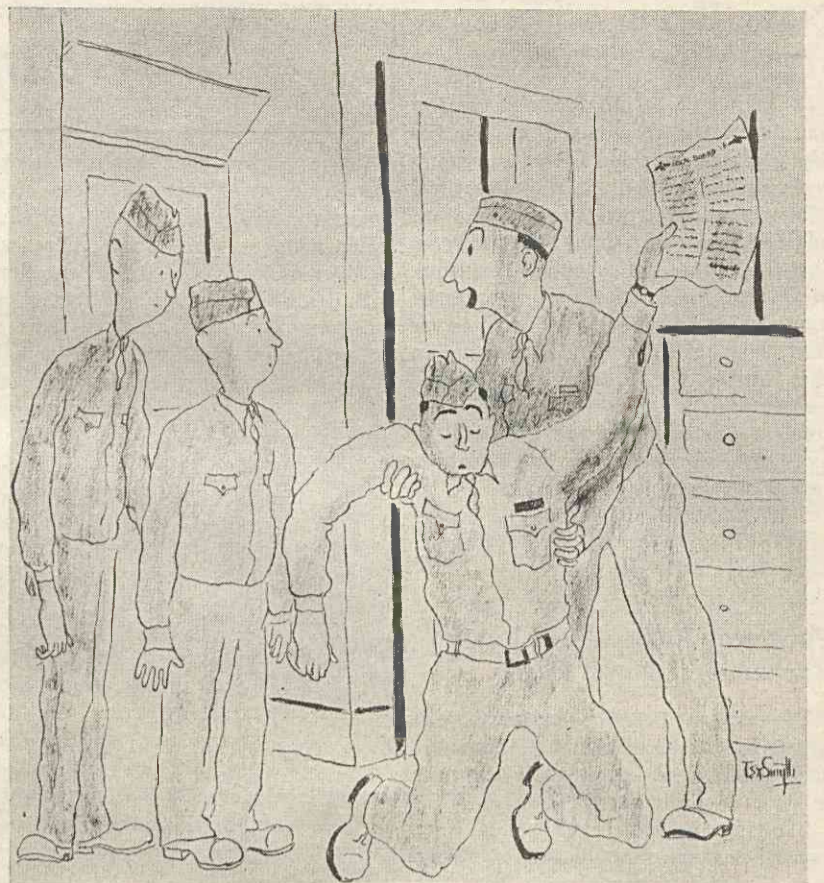
This is being an *active* religionist. Remember, that even the "Prince of Peace" went into the temple "and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves . . . and he taught and said unto them, Is it not written, my house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations?"

It does give us something to think about, does it not?

Buy, buy War Bonds—
Or bye, bye Democracy

**Sunday
Divine Services**

Catholic
Masses 0615, 1000, 1045
Confessions, Friday, 1830-1930
Gerrard Hall
Jewish
1000, Hillel House
General Protestant
1000, Memorial Hall



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