Vol. 2-No. 21

U. S. Navy Pre-Flight School, Chapel Hill, N. C.

Saturday, February 5, 1944

Prelude To Invasion

By Ens. W. O. Shanahan, USNR Academic Department

A series of apparently unrelated events occurring on the eve of the Anglo-American invasion of the continent has enormously increased the possibility of success in that great operation.

A sequence of land, sea, and air victories has moved the enemy closer to defeat by limiting one of his remaining military assets: his mobility. This result is not immediately apparent from the news; therefore, an analysis of the following events will be illustrative: the British naval victories over the remnant of the German fleet; the loss of lateral railroad lines by the German armies in Russia; the flanking movement on the Italian peninsula; and the intensified bombardment of Germany.

There is a tendency for the American public to underestimate the value of the recent British naval victories off the North Cape and in the Bay of Biscay. In two See INVASION, page 4

Birthday Ball Nets \$978 For Paralysis Fund

After deduction of state and federal taxes, a total of \$978.73 was turned over to the Infantile Paralysis Fund, as a result of the President's Birthday Ball sponsored by the Pre-Flight School last Saturday.

Total receipts were \$1,106, as university and townspeople joined with Pre-Flight personnel to raise funds for the fight against infantile paralysis.

Of the 1,106 tickets sold, 73% or 817 were purchased by officers, cadets, enlisted men, and civilian employees of the Pre-Flight School.

In another phase of the Infantile Paralysis campaign, Pre-Flight personnel are credited by E. Carrington Smith, theatre manager, with contributing a large share of the \$1,015.71 received at the Carolina and Pick theatres as donations for the fund.

"I would like to thank the cadets and all Pre-Flight personnel for the contributions they made at the Chapel Hill theatres," Mr. Smith told the CLOUDBUSTER.

Captain Paul Hendren Brings Vivid Picture of War to Cadets

Captain Paul Hendren, U. S. Navy, who is on leave and visiting his family in Chapel Hill, addressed the officers, crew and regiment of cadets of the Pre-Flight School in Memorial Hall on Wednesday evening. Captain Hendren was Commanding Officer of the U. S. S. Philadelphia and participated in the invasion of Sicily and the battle of Salerno. He brought a vivid picture of the actions to the audience and his account of the battles, couched in terse Naval language and phraseology, sprinkled with personal experiences and observations, both serious and humorous, was an inspiration to all who were privileged to hear him.

For his part in the invasion of the Island of Sicily, Captain Hendren was cited by the Commander of the U. S. Naval Forces, Northwest African Waters in the name of the President of the United States and awarded the Legion of Merit.

Captain Hendren was introduced to the audience by Commander John P. Graff, USN (Ret.), Commanding Officer of the U. S. Navy Pre-Flight School, Chapel Hill, who was accorded the honor of presenting the award. The citation reads as follows:

"For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services as Commanding Officer of the U.S. S. PHILADELPHIA in the attack on the Island of Sicily from July 10, 1943, to July 12, 1943.

"By skillful use of gunfire, while fearlessly maneuvering his ship under frequent air bombardment and well within the range of enemy shore artillery, Captain Hendren neutralized and put out of action enemy machine gun nests and artillery, thus materially assisting the 45th Division, U. S. Army, to make its initial seizure of beaches, to advance rapidly inland, and to capture the two towns and two airfields in its zone of advance with small losses.

"The initiative, judgment, and prompt and decisive action displayed by Captain Hendren throughout the entire campaign were in keeping with the highest traditions of and reflected great credit upon the Naval Service."

Cadet Regimental Staff



MEMBERS OF THE CADET Regimental Staff, chosen from members of the 39th Battalion are shown above, left to right: E. L. Gordon, regimental commissary officer; C. J. Heffele, regimental adjutant; D. R. Galletley, regimental sub-commander, and E. J. Cavanaugh, regimental commander.

Pre-Flight Cadets to See Special Performance Of 'Yeomen of the Guard'

A special performance of the Gilbert and Sullivan production, "The Yeomen of the Guard" will be given by the university Playmakers for the Regiment of Cadets in Memorial Hall on Thursday, Feb. 10, starting at 1900.

Three Pre-Flight officers and two cadets are included in the cast: Lieut. Paul E. Hawk, USNR, Ens. Theodore W. Arnold, USNR, Ens. Jonathan Gillingham, USNR, and Cadets Frank F. Goodman and Charles H. Sawyer of the 42nd Battalion.

Personnel Changes

Four officers and six enlisted men were detached from this station during the past week, while one officer reported here for duty.

The officers detached included Lieut. John J. Hoban, USNR, platoon officer, and Lieut. Joseph B. McCabe, USNR, instructor, ENS, both transferred to Camp Bradford, NOB, Norfolk, Va.; Lt. (jg) William C. Hanson, USNR, platoon officer, transferred to Little Creek, Va., and Lt. (jg) C. Hill Peddy, USNR, assistant officer-incharge, military arts instruction, transferred to Submarine Chaser

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