

CLOUD BUSTER

Vol. 2—No. 28

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

Saturday, March 25, 1944

Personnel Changes

Six officers were detached and three enlisted men received during the past week.

Lt. Brooks D. Grand is to be attached to ComTwelve, San Francisco, Cal., 7th Fleet; Lt. (jg) Alfred G. Brown to Acorn Assembly & Training Detachment, Port Hueneme, Cal.; Lt. (jg) Emil P. Camson to NavFlight Prep School, Williams College, Williamstown, Mass.; Lt. (jg) Frederick W. Singleton to CAA WTS, Central Michigan College of Education at Mt. Pleasant, Michigan; Ens. George N. Gale to Flight Prep School at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn.; and Ens. Allen D. Fullerton will report to BuS&A, Washington, D. C.

Lawrence A. Caldwell, HA1c, was received from NAS, Corpus Christi, Texas; Haskell Dickerson, S2c, from Bunker Hill, Ind.; and Norman W. Hildreth, PhM1c, was received from R.S., N.S., New Orleans, La.

60 Officers Take Navigation Course

Close to 60 officers were on hand for the special course in Surface Navigation which was started this past Tuesday night.

Conducted for officers by the Navigation Division of the Academic Department, the course will cover piloting and celestial practical work.

Movie Schedule

Sat., Mar. 25—Free movie at Village Theatre, "Springtime in the Rockies" (technicolor) with Betty Grable and John Payne. Feature starts at 1400, 1538, 1930, and 2109. Complete show one hour, 38 minutes.

Sun., Mar. 26—Free movie at Village Theatre, "Thunderbird" (technicolor) with Gene Tierney and John Sutton. Feature starts at 1326 and 1500. Complete show one hour, 34 minutes.

Pre-Flight Cadet On Hornet When "Doolittle Dood It"

Senior Battalion To Dance Tonight In Pine Room

Members of the 43rd Battalion will hold their Senior Battalion Dance in the Pine Room of Lenoir Hall from 2100 to 2400 tonight.

Liberty for the 43rd has been extended to 0030, with taps coming at 0045. Uniform will be service dress blue, able.

Music for the affair will be provided by the popular swing section of the Pre-Flight band. Refreshments will be served.

H. W. Simon Best In Academics In 42nd Battalion

Cadet H. W. Simon of L-1, with an overall average of 3.84, had the highest individual academic grade for the 42nd Battalion. He is a graduate of the duPont High School, Wilmington, Delaware, and attended the University of Delaware.

Second honors were taken by Cadet M. L. Nash of K-3 with a 3.79. He is a graduate of the Mangham High School, Louisiana, and attended Northeast Jr. College for one year.

Cadet C. G. Thuot of L-3, a graduate of New Bedford, Mass. High School, placed third with an average of 3.63. He also had the highest average for Navigation in the Battalion.

Platoons K-1 and K-3 tied for high honors in Radio with 12.2 words per minute average. K-1 had first honors in Blinker with 7.68 words per minute. Minimum requirements are 10 words in radio and six in blinker.

Cadet John Benson, 45-F-3, saw "Doolittle Dood It" and decided he'd like to try it himself.

Now a V-5 cadet here, Benson was a Radioman 2c aboard the Hornet when Major General Doolittle and his group of gallant fliers bombed Tokyo.

"But," he says with a grin, "that wasn't my greatest thrill. It came a few days later when the Hornet went down at the battle of Santa Cruz."

In the water for half an hour after his ship went under, Benson was picked up by a destroyer and



CADET JOHN BENSON, 45-F-3, who was on the Hornet when it was sunk, is caught by the photographer looking at the Commanding Officers Trophy in Navy Hall.

later transferred to a heavy cruiser.

To refresh your memory the date of the Hornet sinking was October 26, 1942, and it was Japanese torpedo planes that did the trick.

"The Hornet," Benson told the CLODBUSTER, "was part of a Task Force which included over 10,000. Of the 3,000 on the Hornet, only 150 lost their lives."

Benson would have completed
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From the Front

Doctor Regrets He Didn't Like Physical Training

"I wish to God they had been twice as tough in conditioning me..."

So writes a naval doctor who had once "crabbed and griped" when he was put through a rigorous physical-fitness program before being assigned abroad. Why did a doctor need all that conditioning?

But he didn't gripe about his physical condition after he got over, and found himself with a Marine group which invaded Guadalcanal. In an article he describes the necessity for a toughened, hardened physical constitution for anyone engaged in modern warfare:

"Only men who have been well-conditioned and were in good physical shape could stand up under

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American Airmen Hold 13 to 1 Margin Over Japs

By surprising the enemy with tremendous power, and pinning down many of his planes on the ground, air groups from Navy carriers are destroying Japanese aircraft at the rate of more than 13 to one in the current Central Pacific offensive, Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox revealed recently.

Enemy war plane losses in the major actions since our powerful carrier task forces began operations in the Central Pacific area last November total more than 600. Forty-five Navy planes have been lost in combat in these engagements.

This stepped-up ratio covers the pre-invasion and invasion air blows on the Gilbert and Marshall

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