

# AROUND THE STATION

... news from here, there, and everywhere ...

A member of the second battalion paid a flying visit, in the true sense of the word, to Chapel Hill on Monday afternoon. Notification of his presence came in the form of a short note which was picked up by First Lieutenant Russell Hanson, assistant drill officer, on the athletic field below Woollen gymnasium.

The note read, "Good luck to all you fellows," and it was signed Lt. (jg) W. D. Gordon, 2-C-2. Also was listed his present address: VC-69, Fleet Post Office, New York City.

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The Order of the Grail, University of North Carolina honor organization, has invited all cadets to attend a dance tonight, starting at 2100, in Woollen gymnasium. Those attending may go either stag or couple.

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"I served aboard the USS Yorktown as a combat radio-gunner in Bombing Squadron 5, and so far as I know I am one of two men living and free from that squadron."

The above was written by Cadet Eldred Whitlock, 57-E-1, on his cadet questionnaire. Cadet Whitlock, who hails from Kansas City, has had an interesting Naval career. Only 23 years old he had four years of ROTC in high school and was graduated a cadet captain. Later he served one year in the National Guard being discharged as a Drill Sergeant. Then it was four years in the regular Navy with the rate of Aviation Radioman 1c at the time of his transfer to V-5.

After the Yorktown was sunk in the Coral Sea, Cadet Whitlock was assigned to submarine warfare in the tropics on the Atlantic side. He got into V-5 because, as he puts it, he's always been a "bug" about flying.

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Ever since this station was commissioned, the officers and crew in the Welfare Department have been planning and giving picnics and parties for everyone on the station. That is, everyone except themselves.

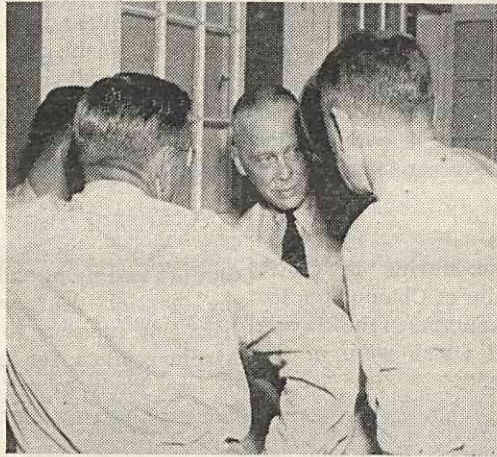
So it was that on Wednesday afternoon the Welfare Department organized itself into task force number (?) and took off for Crystal Lake and a fine outing. Hot dogs, watermelon, cokes and all the trimmings were served. It was a fine example of the golden rule in reverse—do unto yourself as ye would to others.

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Cadet John E. Smith of the 56th Battalion has really gone overboard in the purchase of War Bonds. He recently reported to the war bond officer here, and requested that, in the future, his entire salary be invested in Uncle Sam. Congratulations!

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Cadet Sam Phillips spent a year in the Marine Corps. He is a graduate of Class "A" Radio School, and also the Marine Radar and Radio Maintenance School.



Capt. O. O. Kessing, USN  
... He had a story to tell ...

Capt. O. O. Kessing, USN, the first Commanding Officer of this Pre-Flight School, returned to Chapel Hill last week for a short visit prior to returning to the Pacific where he has served for almost two years.

On last Saturday night at Kessing Hall, which, incidentally, is named in his honor, an informal party was held for the former Pre-Flight Skipper. During the past week he has visited with his family and many friends in Chapel Hill.

Capt. Kessing played an important role in starting the Pre-Flight Training Program. While in command here he saw the cadets in training, and in the Pacific he has seen them in action. "They are doing an excellent job," Capt. Kessing commented, "and their training here has proved invaluable to them."

Until recently Capt. Kessing had charge of the Naval forces at Bougainville. During the past year he has been decorated twice, having received the Navy and Marine Corps Medal last Summer, and the Legion of Merit in June of this year.

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Five more officers were detached this week, and two officers who have just returned to the States from duty in the South Pacific reported aboard.

Lt. (jg) Ralph Kifer and Ensign Clifford Morgan were both ordered to report to the Amphibious Training Base at Coronado, Calif., and Lieut. Archer Reilly was detached to the NAS at Livermore, Calif. Lieut. George Parke, Medical Officer, was ordered to Com12 for further assignment, and Lieut. Charles Werner, who has been track coach for the past year and a half, has reported to the Seventh Fleet.

Lieut. Eugene G. Flick and Lieut. O. E. Sanders were both attached to this station. They will serve in the Military Department.

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Cadet John Lasko enlisted in the Navy in 1939 and served at sea from Sept. of that year until December 28th, 1943.

A year ago this week: Lieut. Frank Kimbrough, head football coach, announced that football practice would get underway immediately. . . . The Vindicators led the Sports Program by 10 points. . . . Lieut. Comdr. Lloyd Sauer, head of the military department, and Lt. (jg) Barnard Welsh emerged as doubles tennis champs of the Pre-Flight School defeating the other finalist team of Lieut. Andrew Marckwald and Lt. (jg) T. W. Arnold. . . . The varsity baseball team returned from New York where it had defeated a combined New York Yankee-Cleveland Indian team, 11 to 5. . . . 27,281 fans witnessed the contest, and an estimated \$35,000 was netted for the Red cross and War Relief.

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Twelve cadets were named outstanding academically for the 51st battalion. They were R. C. Smith, J. Flynn, S. R. Peachy, J. A. Bloomquist, J. J. Dougherty, J. M. Doughty, T. Cassidy, G. D. Fowle, N. J. King, C. M. Bach, A. W. Gerold and W. K. Taylor.

Dougherty and Bloomquist were the top men in the group, the former with a mark of 3.741 and the latter with 3,740.

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Cadet James Webster, 57-E-2, served aboard the USS Enterprise from November 1940 to October 1943. He entered V-5 on January 20th of this year, and he hopes to make the Navy a career after the war.

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The departure of David Coverston, Y1c, on Thursday left the station minus another one of the original plank owners. "Covey," as he was known around the station, was a regular contributor to the Cloudbuster. His "Cruising with Covey" column was one of the paper's most popular features, and it will be hard to replace him.



Covey hails from Florida, and he spent a large part of his time talking about the wonders of that state. His tour of duty at this station will be remembered for a long time for it was while he was here that he met his wife, the former Miss Virginia Heyward. Mrs. Coverston, who is the Captain's secretary, will continue to make her home in Chapel Hill.

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Other than Coverston, LeRoy Mears, RM2c, was transferred to Port Hueneme, Calif. for assignment, and Frederick W. Ziegler, PmM3c, was received from the NAPTCRO, New York, N. Y.