

CLOUDBUSTER

Vo. 3—No. 36

U. S. NAVY PRE-FLIGHT SCHOOL, CHAPEL HILL, N. C.

Friday, May 25, 1945

Pre-Flight School Has 3rd Anniversary



MORE THAN 15,000—This water-color mural in Navy Hall symbolizes the more than 15,000 cadets who successfully completed Pre-Flight training here since commissioning of the school three years ago and were transferred for primary flight instruction. The painting, created by Cadet Gene Aiello of the 13th Battalion, depicts a typical cadet leaving the station after completing Pre-Flight work, while in the background are represented various activities which make up the program.

Navy Will Sponsor New Radio Show

The Navy Department has completed arrangements to produce and direct a 26-week series of 30-minute programs on the Blue Network, depicting the activities and achievements of Naval Aviation, Rear Admiral H. B. Miller, U.S.N., Director of the Office of Public Relations, announced today.

The program, which will be broadcast in the evening, will begin sometime this summer. It

is the first network program to be approved for production by the Navy Department.

The program is the first step in plans of Rear Admiral Miller to bring to the public a wider coverage of the Navy's participation in the war, with particular emphasis on the Pacific theater.

Dance At Pine Room

A cadet dance for the 69th, 11RB, and 4RD Battalions will be held in the Pine Room on the evening of Saturday, 26 May from 2100 to 2400.

Six Ex-Cadets Win Navy Crosses For Heroism In Pacific

Six Navy pilots who received their pre-flight training at the Navy Pre-Flight School here have been awarded Navy Crosses recently for heroism in the Pacific war during October, 1944.

Lt. (jg) Donald McCutcheon, Elizabeth, N. J., a member of the First Battalion here when the school was commissioned in May, 1942, won the Navy Cross for valor as a pilot of a carrier-based divebomber at Leyte Gulf on October 25, 1944. Pressing home his attack, he made a direct hit on an enemy carrier of the *Shokaku* class in the face of intense anti-aircraft fire from the entire enemy disposition. He con-

(Continued on Page 3)

More Than 15,000 Cadets Trained Here Since 1942

Last Wednesday, May 23, marked the third anniversary of the commissioning of this Pre-Flight School.

Since the arrival of the First Battalion three years ago, more than 15,000 V-5 trainees have completed Pre-Flight instruction here and have been transferred to naval air stations for primary flight training. Many of these are now veteran combat pilots in naval aviation, who have outflown and outfought the enemy in combat areas around the world.

For more than a year now this has been the only Pre-Flight School engaged in training French cadets for the French Navy.

During the first two years a (Continued on Page 3)

Anniversary Greetings

The following dispatch was received from the Chief of Naval Air Primary Training on the occasion of the 3rd Anniversary of this School's commissioning:

"On the occasion of the Third Anniversary of the commissioning of the Chapel Hill Pre-Flight School, as Chief of Naval Air Primary Training I extend to you as Commanding Officer and through you to all hands my appreciation for a job well done. Since the first Battalion reported three years ago your school has transferred more than 15,000 aviation cadets to Primary training units. The fine military and physical training received in Pre-Flight and the aviation training received at later stages are reflected in the manner in which our graduates have outflown and outfought the enemy in combat. Naval aviation still has a tremendous job to be done in the Pacific and there can be no let-down anywhere. Stress upon all hands at Chapel Hill Pre-Flight to continue to maintain the highest standards of training to the end that our contribution to the war effort will be all that Naval Aviation, the Navy, the Nation expect of us.

"O. B. HARDISON,
"Rear Admiral, U. S. Navy."

The Commanding Officer takes great pleasure in congratulating all hands for a job well done on the Third Anniversary of the Pre-Flight School. The spirit with which all hands have faced the tasks confronting them in the past three years has been in keeping with the best traditions of the service. The Commanding Officer knows that all hands will redouble their efforts to complete the tasks before them and that when the final victory is won the Navy Pre-Flight School, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, will go down in the annals of Naval history as one of the finest schools of its type.

JAMES P. RAUGH,
Comdr., USNR
Commanding Officer.