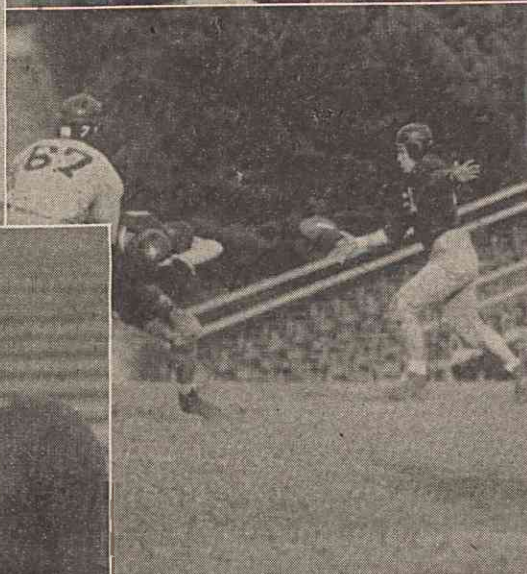


## Gabriel, USNR, Coach of USS Card Football Team

on at the football game last  
the Mariners, leaders in the  
a team from the USS Card.  
D. Top middle photo shows  
and Cadet L. L. Jones, coach  
is, while just below is Lieut.  
d coach and his Co-Captains  
k R. Rago and on the right  
wer left hand photo shows  
y (Ret.), presenting awards at  
the six cadets who won first  
ack meet, while on the right  
alking things over with his  
ictures include shots of the  
in the Pine Room at Lenoir  
credit from the Mariners it  
io that the Card eleven had but  
12 before the game, and that  
12 ago. They worked out at  
st 10 footballs before their  
as ball. A crowd of 2,500,  
itnessed the game with half  
Card eleven, and the other  
s. Cadets Mascolino and  
n touchdowns, while the Card  
or played best for the losers.



## Presidential Citation Given To Task Unit 21.14

Following is the Presidential Unit Citation awarded to Task Unit 21.14 by Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox, acting in the name of the President of the United States, for outstanding performance during anti-submarine operations in the mid-Atlantic:

"For outstanding performance during anti-submarine operations in mid-Atlantic from July 27, 1943. At a time when continual flow of supplies along the United States-North Africa convoy route was essential to the maintenance of our established military supremacy and to the accumulation of reserves, the *Card*, her embarked aircraft and her escorts pressed home a vigorous offensive which was largely responsible for the complete withdrawal of hostile U-boats from this vital supply area. Later, when submarines returned with deadlier weapons and augmented antiaircraft defenses, this heroic Task Unit, by striking damaging blows at the onset of renewed campaigns, wrested the initiative from the enemy before actual inception of projected large-scale attacks. Its distinctive fulfillment of difficult and hazardous missions contributed materially to victorious achievements by our land forces."

The Task Unit consisted of the *USS Card*, *USS Barry*, *USS Borie*, *USS Goff*, and Composite Squadrons One and Nine, aviation units stationed aboard the *USS Card*.

The award of this citation marks the first time that the Presidential Unit Citation has been presented to a group of ships and aircraft composing a Task Unit. The citation, the highest award which can be received by any unit of the armed services of the United States, is awarded for the performance of services "above and beyond the high standard expected of our forces."

the account of her activities during three consecutive days. Her Air Group had drawn first blood from the enemy only a few days before and the pilots were chafing for more action.

It came suddenly one morning when Lieut. Asbury H. Sallenger, USNR, of Goldsboro, N. C., in a Grumman Avenger torpedo bomber ranging far from the *Card*, spotted two surfaced subs and went in for the attack. He damaged one so severely with bombs that it could not dive, and probably sank the other. The first was finished off 10 minutes later by other Avenger pilots.

That same day the *Borie* attacked a sub, but with only doubtful results. However, it indicated that the *Card* and her group were in the middle of a wolfpack.

The next day Avenger pilot, Lieut. Sallenger, and fighter pilot Ensign John Franklyn Sprague, USNR, of Sunnyside, Wash., in a Wildcat, were among the group that took off in a dawn hunt for the subs. After a few reports the pair was not heard from for three hours and, when the rest of the group had been landed aboard the *Card*, the *Card* and her escorts set out for the area to look for them because they obviously were down at sea.

Lieutenant Sallenger's story follows:

"The weather was poor when

we took off, with a solid overcast, rain squalls and poor visibility. Sprague was flying on my wing. All at once I spotted two U-boats, only 150 yards apart, moving slowly on almost parallel courses.

"I signalled Sprague to attack and he made a beautiful strafing run, giving that sub a methodical going over with his machine-guns. But as I followed him in, I got some 'AA' in my fuselage, putting out my inter-plane communication and electrical systems and also damaging the vertical fin of my plane and the rudder. Everything happened so suddenly, and the damage to my electrical system prevented the release of bombs on my first run.

"I pulled up and out for a second attack, with my engine popping and cutting out. Meanwhile, Sprague was making another excellent strafing run on the other sub.

"When I went in on my second run, I got hit again and the wing burst into flames. However, I made my 'drop' and looked back to make sure my bombs exploded in the proper place. The explosions, which seemed to go off right under the sub, covered it with water.

"My wing was now burning badly, so I dropped my remaining bombs and made a water landing. It put out the fire in the wing.

"I got out of the plane and saw  
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