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CLOUD BUSTER

A Letter From South Pacific

(Lieut. John E. Fletcher, USNR, at one time attached to this station, recently wrote Lieut. Earle Waters, USNR, head soccer coach, of his present duties in the South Pacific. Part of his letter, of interest to Pre-Flight personnel here, is reprinted below.)

"News of Chapel Hill comes like rain to the upturned face of a desert traveler. It sounds a little strange to hear the names again, and I am sorry so many of the old faces have disappeared, but basically I am sure it remains as it was. Let me tell you a story you will be interested in—it concerns our program, from way back.

"In one of the invasions, we were landing marines between a dock and the seemingly abandoned hulk of an old ship, run high up on the beach. The men were suffering terrific casualties from crossfire, the origin of which could not be determined. I was trying to locate it, and just as I was approaching the old hulk, two of our boys appeared in the air out of nowhere and dive-bombed the hell out of her. There was almost nothing left. My boat was less than fifty yards away at the time, and we took kind of a beating ourselves. It wasn't until weeks later, that I found out who had helped us out. Two of "our boys" from the 1st battalion at Chapel Hill, now flying off a converted carrier, were the lads I met and in the course of conversation (we recognized each other instantly) it came out where they had been and what they had done."

Senior Dental Officer Promoted to Commander

Lt. Comdr. Jacob E. L. Thomas, (DC) USNR, was promoted during the past week to the rank of Commander.

15 Enlisted Men Advanced in Rating

Fifteen enlisted men were advanced in rating, effective March 1.

V. L. Fryer was advanced from SK2c to SK1c; C. R. Gabel and C. J. Landswerk, from PhM3c to PhM2c; B. E. Hinkle, E. M. Hessionington, and N. J. Volkman, from HA1c to PhM3c; and nine men from HA2c to HA1c, as follows: J. H. Beard, S. J. Brizzi, W. B. Dycus, H. E. Geddings, B. E. Harwood, T. J. McLaughlin, H. J. Newell, H. F. Player, and N. R. Thompson.

Crew Dance Tonight

All enlisted personnel are invited to attend the Crew Dance being held tonight at 2030 in the building located on the upper soccer field.

Refreshments will be served, and music will be furnished by the swing section of the Pre-Flight band.

Rear Admiral Hardison Inspects Navy Pre-Flight School Here

Adm. Hardison



Rear Admiral Osborne B. Hardison, USN, Chief of Naval Air Primary Training, came aboard yesterday with members of his staff for his first inspection of this Pre-Flight school.

Admiral Hardison, a native of North Carolina, attended the University of North Carolina here in Chapel Hill before entering the Naval Academy in 1912. He was Commanding Officer of the USS Enterprise from October 1942 to April 7, 1943. He served aboard the USS Texas in the first World War, became a Naval Aviator in 1923, and served aboard the carriers USS Lexington, USS Saratoga, USS Langley, and USS Ranger before becoming Commanding Officer of the USS Enterprise.

In addition to the Navy Cross, Admiral Hardison holds the Victory Medal, Grand Fleet Clasp, the American Defense Service Medal, Fleet Clasp, the Asiatic-Pacific Area Campaign Medal, and the ribbon of the Presidential Unit Citation—USS Enterprise.

Personnel Changes

Three officers were attached and two detached during the past week.

The new arrivals are Comdr. Max M. Jacobson, (MC) USNR, from NAS, Pensacola, Fla.; Lieut. Alexander J. Yunevich, USNR, from NAS, Lakehurst, N. J.; and Lt (jg) Anna G. Schultz, W-V (S), USNR, from Moffet Field, Cal.

Detached were Lieut. Charles A. Stump, USNR, O-in-C, Special Details, Military Department, transferred to Advanced Base Personnel Depot, San Bruno, Cal., and Lieut. John Stocker, USNR, instructor, N & R, transferred to Air Combat Information School, NAS, Quonset, Point, R. I.

See PERSONNEL, page 4

**THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
NAVAL RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS
CHAPEL HILL, N. C.**

28 February 1944

From: Professor of Naval Science and Tactics.

To: Commanding Officer, U. S. Naval Pre-Flight School, Chapel Hill, N. C.

Subj: Dress Parade, Friday, February 25th, 1944—Appreciation of.

- To the Commanding Officer, to his Staff, and to the Cadet Regimental Commander, the Professor of Naval Science and Tactics, his Staff, and the N.R.O.T.C. Battalion tender their sincere appreciation and thanks for the honor extended to the N.R.O.T.C. and to its first graduates, on the occasion of Graduation Day last Friday, February 25th, 1944.
- The excellent appearance and general smartness of the Cadet Regiment, including the Band, was the subject of universal praise.

W. S. Popham
Captain, U.S.N.