

# Smash Records In Navy War Bond Program

All Navy War Bond records were smashed in December, when bond purchases for the month totaled \$120,701,910, it has been announced by the Office of Coordinator for War Bonds in Washington. The December total far surpassed the previous high of \$78,587,569, registered last July.

The tremendous total was reached not only because of the Pearl Harbor Day volume of \$62,568,845 but also because of another record-breaking performance—the December allotment total of over 42 million dollars. Bond purchases for 1944 totaled \$576,201,731, as against \$299,116,307 for 1943, or an increase of 93 per cent.

**Navy Yards, NAS Lead**  
December purchases showed a 112 per cent increase over the December 1943 figure of \$57,021,654 and brought the grand total since the inception of the Navy War Bond program in October, 1941, to \$982,492,371.

The Navy Yards and the Naval Air Stations led the bond program in December with 93.6 per cent of the civilian personnel of the yards investing 11.2 per cent of their gross payroll and 94.6 per cent of the Air Stations investing 11 per cent.

As of December 31 effective allotments of uniformed personnel totaled 1,982,577. Of these, 1,631,010 were by Navy personnel; 266,000 by the Marine Corps and 85,567 by the Coast Guard.

**Buffet Chicken Supper**  
A buffet chicken supper will be held Sunday, Jan. 28, at 1900 in the Officers' Club. Officers and their wives are invited.

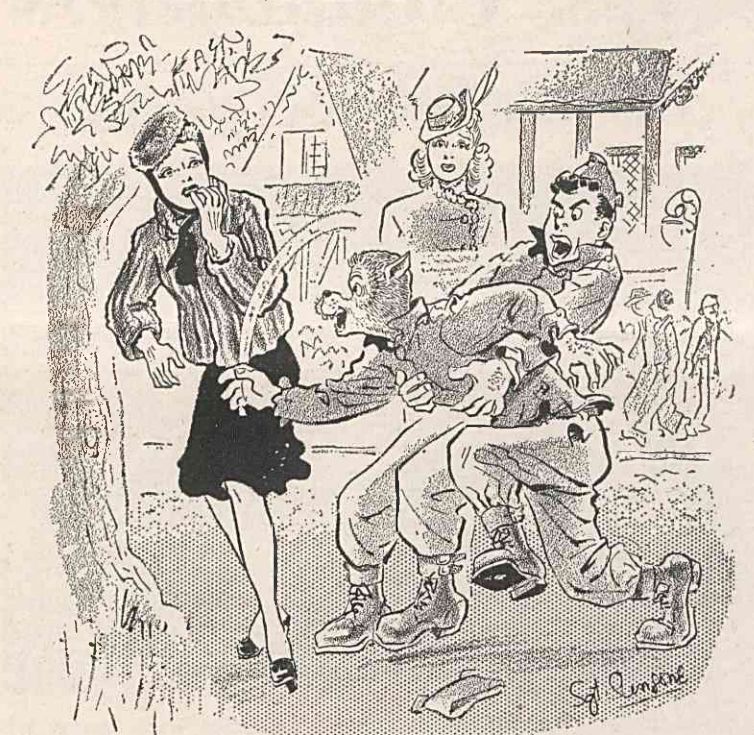
# Cadet Place Was Quartermaster, Pacific Vet Before Reporting To Hill

The job of steering a destroyer during general quarters once belonged to Aviation Cadet George C. Place of Somerville, N. J.

When the *USS Connor* put out from Boston in 1943, Place was aboard as a quartermaster and participated in ensuing battles and raids off Wake Island, New Britain and New Ireland, as well as the invasion of the Gilberts. Upon the occasion of the New Britain attack, Cadet Place spent Christmas Eve at the wheel of the *Connor*, executing zig-zag turns to avoid possible Jap torpedoes.



# The Wolf by Sansone



"A simple 'hello' will do!"

## —Correction—

In the 5 January issue of "Cloudbuster" the headline and article about Comdr. William R. (Killer) Kane, USN, were in error in that he was referred to as the "New Pre-Flight Head" and as "Commanding Officer" of the Naval Aviation Physical and Military Training Program. Commander Kane is head of Physical and Military Training for Naval Aviation, under the Director of the Aviation Training Division, Office of Chief of Naval Operations.

The Navy's Pre-Flight School here is one of the units of the Naval Air Primary Training

Command, of which Rear Admiral O. B. Hardison, USN, is Chief, with command headquarters at Naval Air Station, Glenview, Ill.

## COMING EVENTS

- TOMORROW**
- MOVIES**  
Village: Free movies, "This Is the Life," with Susanna Foster and Donald O'Connor, at 1315 and 1449, and "Thousands Cheer," with Kathryn Grayson and Gene Kelly, at 1900 and 2113.  
Carolina: "Dark Waters," with Merle Oberon and Franchot Tone.  
Pick: "Louisiana Hayride," with Judy Canova.
- BASKETBALL**  
Carolina Pre-Flight vs. Georgia Pre-Flight, Woollen Gym at 1930.
- BOXING**  
Carolina Pre-Flight vs. Cherry Point Marines, Woollen Gym at 2100.
- SUNDAY**
- DIVINE SERVICES**  
Protestant: Memorial Hall at 1000.  
Catholic: Gerrard Hall at 0615, Hill Music Hall at 1000.  
Jewish: Hill House at 1000.
- MOVIES**  
Village: Free movies, "Swing Fever," with Kay Kyser and Marilyn Maxwell, at 1310 and 1448.  
Carolina: "Thin Man Goes Home," with William Powell and Myrna Loy.  
Pick: "Sensations of 1945," with Eleanor Powell.
- MONDAY**
- BASKETBALL**  
Pre-Flight vs. Camp Lejeune, Woollen Gym at 1930.
- TUESDAY**
- WRESTLING**  
Pre-Flight vs. Duke, Woollen Gym at 1930.
- WEDNESDAY**
- BASKETBALL**  
Pre-Flight vs. Edenton Marines, Woollen Gym at 1930.

## 80th Jap Admiral Dies

Honolulu (CNS)—Eighty Jap admirals have died since last May, according to a Tokyo broadcast picked up here. Latest to go was Vice Admiral Hiroshi Nakagawa. Cause of his demise was not announced.

# Former Cadet Here Made Heroic Fight To Defend His Ship

A former Pre-Flight cadet at Chapel Hill—Lieut. (jg) William Gallagher of Belmont, Mass.—now is listed as missing in action following a heroic choice to defend his ship with little gasoline rather than fly to safety. Lieut. (jg) Gallagher, who reported to this school on Oct. 1, 1942, was in the 10th battalion.

A Navy torpedo plane pilot—with only a few minutes' supply of gas in his Avenger—Lieut. (jg) Gallagher calmly elected to strike the Japanese battle fleet instead of flying to a ship, a combat report reveals. It happened in the Second Battle of the Philippines, during the episode in which a powerful force of enemy battleships and cruisers closed on a small group of U. S. baby flattops and destroyers off Samar Island.

## Japs Cross Target

Lieut. (jg) Gallagher was aboard the *USS Gambier Bay*. Later sent to the bottom, this escort carrier hurriedly was launching its planes while Jap shells kicked up towering geysers on both sides of the flight deck. Lieut. (jg) Gallagher had only enough gasoline in his plane to last 10 to 12 minutes, and there was no time to put in more.

Told he had barely enough to fly to another carrier, the 22-year-old airman chose instead to defend his own ship. "I'll use the gas for fighting," he said.

As soon as his plane was in the air he headed for a Jap cruiser, maneuvered into position, and executed a bombing run through a vicious barrage of anti-aircraft fire. A few minutes later another Navy pilot saw Lieut. (jg) Gallagher's plane smoking and losing altitude. Possibly hit by flak and certainly out of gasoline, the Avenger made a forced landing in the very center of the Jap fleet.

Shortly afterward the enemy warships, harried by planes from the baby flattops and threatened by the approach of other Navy units, broke off the engagement and fled through San Bernardino Strait.

## —Fighter Ace—

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exploits during this and the Second Battle of the Philippine Sea.

During the seven months of operations before it returned to the United States for a rest period, Air Group 15 compiled a carrier group record of 312 enemy planes destroyed in the air; 348 destroyed on the ground; 388 probably destroyed or damaged in the air and on the ground; a carrier, a destroyer, and a destroyer escort sunk without aid from other air groups.