

Crew News

By Ann Onomus, Y3/c,
V-10, USNR

A few name suggestions fell in the box this week such as "Scuttlebutt," "Listen, Folks," and "Ramblin' Round." Did you know the box was made especially for our news by Jack F. Stanson, Sp(G)2/C? Let's show our appreciation by filling it up with ideas. I plan to put said box downstairs in the Cruise Club where you can't miss it. Reward for the winning title—your name in the paper and a permanent subscription to the Cloudbuster. Full speed ahead!

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This week's theme song, "There'll be Some Changes Made," really covers everything. William Champion, SAD3/c, presented Beverly Cox with a ring on the evening of 26 June. "Bev" you know as a Western Union operator downtown; Bill, a SAD sack at Gunnery Office.

Gustaf M. Swedman, PhM2/c, and Betty Sparrow, telephone operator at Alex, were married on 21 July at the First Lutheran Church, Richmond, Virginia. They are now living at 219 West Franklin Street, and "Gus" announces he is "very happily married."

A baby boy, John Bruce Grant, was born early Saturday morning to a proud mama and papa, Helen Louise Grant and her husband, Robert Edward Grant, CSM. The Communication gang had been waiting a long time for this event.

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Martha Deaton, SK3/c, just returned from visiting her sister in Baltimore. Her sister had twins, a boy plus girl. Dorothea Bauer, SKD1/c, came back on 29 July to announce that she had to visit New York to see "Bloomer Girl." Wilda or "Billie" Baker, Y1/c, camped last week in the hills of West Virginia, and Rebecca ("Becky") Trexler, HA1/c, had a happy playtime in Virginia.

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This week we said "Goodbye" to three men and welcomed aboard twelve more. John W. Welsh, RM2/c, left the Communications Department on 27 July for New London, Connecticut. On the same day Robert W. Hoover, PhM1/c, shoved off for instruction in the Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, Virginia, and O. L. Clark, MaM3/c, our postal-packing Papa, for discharge at Charleston, South Carolina. Robert D. Jackson, formerly PhM1/c, just couldn't stay away and returned this week from Charleston to display his civvies. Pretty sharp.

Two HA2/c's, Charles N. Marra and Eugene J. Anderson, reported here on 24 July from Naval Hospital, Great Lakes. "Chuck" lives in Tuckahoe, New York; "Andy" in Brooklyn.

Former Cadets Are Decorated for Valor In Pacific Combat

Each week continues to bring news of former cadets here who have distinguished themselves in combat against the Japs. Most recent information is about the award of the Navy Cross and three Distinguished Flying Crosses to ex-Cloudbusters who have inscribed their names on the honor roll of the Pacific.

Winner of the Navy Cross is Lt. (jg) Vincent H. Harris, USNR, of New York City, a member of the 14th Battalion here in November, 1942.

As pilot of a plane in the Southwest Pacific Area he pursued and attacked a Jap ship. In the face of an intense barrage of fire he made his attack with bold determination and utter disregard for his own safety. The strike in which he participated so valiantly resulted in serious damage to a major ship of the enemy.

Three Flying Crosses

Another former Cloudbuster to be decorated was Lt. (jg) Herbert R. Barruch, USNR, of Brooklyn, N. Y., a member of the 8th Battalion, who received the Distinguished Flying Cross for his part in bombing the Marianas, Philippines, Formosa, and the Bonins as a member of Bombing Squadron 13.

Lt. (jg) Harold E. Matthews, USNR, 12th Battalion member from Roxbury, Mass. (missing in action) received the Distinguished Flying Cross as a pilot in Fighting Squadron 51 for outstanding service at Luzon and the Battle for Leyte Gulf while flying from the *USS San Jacinto*.

The Distinguished Flying Cross was also awarded to Lt. (jg) Andrew H. Rohleder, USNR, of Rockingham, N. C., former member of the 6th Battalion (missing in action) for outstanding service as pilot of a bombing plane in the Philippines, 24 September, 1944.

Cadet Moise Rates 4.0 In Orientation Course

Quizz wizard of War Orientation here with a straight 4.0 for the course is Cadet John C. Moise, 68th Battalion member from Elyria, Ohio. Moise scored all of the 100 questions correctly, becoming the first cadet ever to complete the course with four perfect examination grades. Lieut.



Willis H. Miller, instructor, called Moise in to congratulate him and to request the success formula so that it might be passed on to other striving members of the regiment.



CADET STAFF—Members of the new cadet regimental staff from the 68th Battalion are shown above, from bottom to top: Wirt H. Hamilton, Jr., Richmond, Va., regimental commander; Hamilton D. Currier, Jr., San Antonio, Tex., regimental sub-commander; James E. MacDonald, Christopher, Ill., regimental adjutant; and Ronald Q. Dolan, Williamsfield, O., regimental commissary officer.

—WAVES—

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Dance at Club

On Friday night, July 27, the WAVES sponsored a Pre-Anniversary Dance at the Cruise Club for the male enlisted personnel. Charles Adams, BM1/c, a guy called Joe, and his wife, Tommy, acted as dispensers of the refreshments furnished by the Welfare and Recreation Office. They had assistance in the cooperation of James Barnfield, PhM1/c, who served pretzels throughout the evening and Felix Broussard, CGM, who refilled empty cups.

Emil Praderalli, S2/c, started the evening off by handing out cigars in honor of his new baby girl, and Mary Bella Fournier, PhM3/c, scored a hit by toying with one of these La Palinas like a sturdy sailor. Another highlight of the evening was a popularity contest led by the master of ceremonies, Harold Tabbutt, First Sergeant in the Marine V-12 Unit. Helen I. Miller, Y2/c, won this contest by overwhelming applause and was rewarded with a manicure set and a kiss from her escort, William Phillips, HA1/c.

It was planned every fifth dance be a tag dance for the WAVES, but the male guests undermined this idea by losing count of the dances and doing their own tagging. For the occasion Jane Woods, PhM3/c, made two posters depicting the WAVE anniversary, and Lindy Wheeler, Y3/c, contributed to the entertainment by singing "Ain't Misbehavin'."

—Buy More War Bonds—

'Buster Bits

Cadet Pearson On Minesweep For Invasions

Among the 11-week refreshers who have seen plenty of action between their Pre-Flight training phases is Cadet **John E. Pearson**, of Falls City, Neb., who reported aboard in the 11-R-F group from duty in the Pacific where he participated in the invasions of Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

In the Fall of 1941, Pearson left the Philadelphia Navy Yard for duty with VP 91, a PBV squadron that was being commissioned at Quonset Point, R. I.

The squadron had orders to run anti-sub patrol off the coast of Ireland, but the orders were cancelled with the attack on Pearl Harbor, and VP 91 headed for the Pacific.

By February of 1942, Pearson's squadron was in the midst of the Solomon Islands campaign with their base at Espiritu Santo.

By early 1943, the squadron had lost seven of its planes to enemy action and was decommissioned and Pearson, a yeoman first class at that time, was sent to the V-5 program at St. Mary's.

After deselection from V-5, Pearson, then a Chief Yeoman, was assigned to an Auxilliary Minesweep craft as captain's writer, and was headed for Pacific waters again.

Duty at Iwo Jima

Three days before D-day at Iwo Jima, the craft was sweeping the approaches to that island in preparation for the invasion.

The ship was under fire almost continually from enemy guns on the beach, and the AM was firing back at them with such accuracy that two of the shore batteries were accounted for by the sweeper.

At Okinawa, the Minesweep started clearing the approaches to the island nine days in advance of the invasion. The enemy aircraft were encountered everywhere, and many accounted for before D-day.

"You might say that we bagged more planes than mines," said Pearson recalling the campaign. "One morning we shot down three out of seven planes that tried to dive into the ship."

After D-day, the craft was on picket duty doing sub and air patrol work to notify the larger ships of the fleet when enemy planes were coming in.

Pearson said that their best friends out there on picket duty were the Combat Air Patrolmen, Marines flying F4U's. One morning he saw seven Corsairs shoot down seven Jap Vals directly overhead just before the enemy planes made their attack on the Minesweep.

Urge your sister or girl friend to join the WAVES. The Navy needs 2,000 new Women Reservists every month.