

### Col. Smith Hopes New Patrol Plan To Curb Accidents

The State Highway Patrol feels that the State's accident and fatality rate will show improvement under the reorganization plan recently announced, even though its effect in this county will be to decrease the number of patrolmen on duty.

This statement was contained in a letter received today by Dr. Boyd Owen, Lions Club president, in answer to the club's protest to Colonel James R. Smith, State Highway Patrol Commander.

The letter follows: "I am most appreciative of the thoughts expressed by the members of the Waynesville Lions Club, through you and your Chairman of the Lions Club Safety Committee, relative to the Patrol personnel in Haywood County.

"Due to the vital interest in safety manifested by the people of your County it is felt that you will understand our over-all program in the assignment of the men under the re-organization plan.

"With the additional men and the formation of the Fifth Troop, we have endeavored to station the men so that we can be assured of a greater number of miles being patrolled, thereby serving more

### A. J. Plemmons Serving On Destroyer Cushing

A. J. Plemmons, seaman apprentice, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Plemmons of Route 2, Waynesville, is serving aboard the newly commissioned destroyer USS Cushing which he helped to reactivate at the U. S. Naval Station, Long Beach, Calif.

After overhaul at a west coast Navy shipyard, the Cushing will become part of the Destroyer Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet.

people. While the number of Patrolmen previously assigned an area, in many cases, has been reduced, we honestly feel that our accident and fatality rate, as a State, will show much improvement under the re-organization plan.

"The North Carolina State Highway Patrol values the cooperation and good-will of your Club members and know that we can count on you in our endeavor to reduce accidents and fatalities and assure you that we are striving, as an organization, to render the best possible service to the people of our State.

(Signed) James R. Smith, Colonel"

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