

Raeford Sailor On Pacific Duty

Navy Boatswain's mate Third Class Earl L. Propst is aboard the amphibious attack cargo ship USS Durham making his second cruise to the Western Pacific.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. David P. Propst, Route 2, Raeford, N.C., and a 1968 graduate of Raeford's Hoke County High School. His wife, Janice, is living at 2106 Lombardy Dr., Fayetteville.

"I'm an assault boat coxswain aboard the Durham," the 20-year-old sailor explained. "I'm responsible for seeing that the Marines and equipment in my boat get to the beach during amphibious maneuvers. During regular working hours at sea, I make sure that my LCM-8 landing craft is ready to go into the water on a moment's notice."

Durham is one of the Navy's five new Charleston Class amphibious attack cargo ships designed to carry Marines and their equipment to enemy beaches more quickly and efficiently than older ships of the same type.

For the next three months, the Durham will be cruising in the Far East. She will be ready to tackle freight runs between Yankee Station off Vietnam and Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines or launch her Marines as a part of an amphibious assault on a moment's notice.

The 575-foot ship is "home" for more than 400 Navy officers and men. About half of her crew is made up of boatswain's mates and deck seamen who keep the one-year-old vessel shipshape and handle cargo.

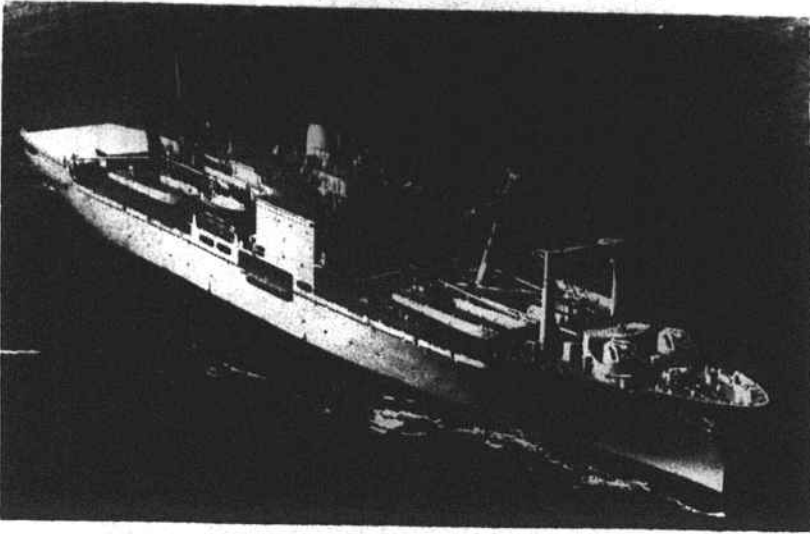
When the Durham's General Quarters alarm sounds, Propst becomes the sightsetter on Mount 34, one of four 3-inch, 50-caliber guns on the ship.

Propst is a "plankowner" aboard the Durham. That is, he was a member of the crew that commissioned the modern cargo vessel May 24, 1969 in Norfolk, Va. Each man received a specially prepared certificate as a memento of the occasion.

"I joined the Navy," he mentioned, "because I wanted to see some of the world." During his 20 months of active Naval service, he has visited ports in the Panama Canal Zone, Hawaii, the Philippines and Vietnam.

Propst said, "I'd like to see Hong Kong on this cruise. I'm interested in some of the historic spots there and would like to learn a little bit about the Far Eastern customs."

Propst holds the National Defense and Vietnam Service medals.



ON CRUISE -- The USS Durham is currently cruising in the Far East. On her decks are her four gun mounts, 11 assault boats and cargo booms. The flat area on the after section of the ship is the helicopter landing platform. She is 575 feet long and carries a crew of 400 officers and men.



AT SEA -- Navy Boatswain's Mate Earl L. Propst of Raeford, calls the bridge aboard the amphibious cargo ship USS Durham.

\$3,459,000 Spent For Food Locally

NEW YORK, July 11 -- Inflation or no inflation, the past year was a good one for most Hoke County families, the figures show. Their increased earnings enabled them to maintain their usual standard of living despite the higher costs.

As a result, consumer spending for goods and services continued at a high level, with many local merchants topping their records of the previous year.

The details are brought out in the annual nationwide survey conducted by the Standard Rate and Data Service. It shows how much was spent by local residents for food, clothing, cars, furniture and other items.

Comparable spending figures are given for other localities across the country.

In Hoke County, it is shown, food attracted the largest part of the consumer dollar.

The sales volume in local grocery stores, meat markets, bakeries, delicatessens and the like added up to an impressive \$3,459,000, exceeding the previous year's \$3,191,000.

And this represented only food that was bought for home consumption. Not included is the amount spent in restaurants and in other dining and drinking establishments.

What it amounted to, in effect, was that 27 cents of every dollar spent in retail stores went for take-home food. It was a bigger proportion than in many communities. States, 21 cents of the dollar was so-spent and, in the State of North Carolina, 22 cents.

Just how much the food bill came to in terms of the average family, apportioning the total amount equally among the population, was \$898 per family.

The report also shows how much was spent locally by consumers for other commodities.

Expenditures for automotive equipment, including cars, boats and motorcycles, totaled \$2,011,000.

Purchases in department stores and other stores selling general merchandise amounted to \$663,000.

Sales of wearing apparel of all sorts reached \$287,000.

In stores carrying furniture and other home furnishings, the sales volume was \$623,000.

State Tax Revenues Up

Tax revenues for the state increased this year by 13.8 per cent in the net general fund, 32.5 per cent in the net highway fund and 34.9 per cent from gasoline tax.

Net general fund collections for fiscal 1969-70 were \$843.1 million compared with \$740.9 million for 1968-69, an increase of \$102.2 million.

Net highway fund collections this fiscal year were \$290.6 million compared with \$219.2 million collected in 1968-69, an increase of \$71.4 million. Gasoline tax collections for this period were \$213.7 million as compared with \$158.4 million collected during fiscal 1968-69, an increase of \$55.3 million.

If overweight, reduce! the North Carolina Heart Association says.

Lumber Bridge

By PAM SUMNER

Miss Jackie Brown of Lumber Bridge and Buddy Fields of St. Pauls visited Mr. and Mrs. Luby Jackson of Newton Grove Saturday.

Miss Cathy Lupo and Miss Karen Collins of Parkton spent Wednesday night with Miss Dorothy Cooper of Fayetteville.

Mr. and Mrs. Buddy Jones and son David spent last Tuesday and Wednesday at Chimney Rock and Lake Lure.

Visiting Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hough during the weekend were their children and families. Capt. and Mrs. Jon Tyner and children Kathy, Monica and Wayne of Edentown, New Jersey, Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Hough and children Jeneal, Dawn and Edmund and Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Hough Jr. and children Bob and Donna of Charlotte and her parents Mr. and Mrs. Robert Atchley of Rutherfordton and Mrs. and Mrs. Billie Hough of Greensboro. Capt. Tyner returned to Edentown, New Jersey Sunday and Mrs. Tyner and children remained for a two week visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Sumner and son Johnnie accompanied Steve Freeman, who spent several days last week with Johnnie to his home in Fayetteville, Sunday afternoon. Johnnie is spending this week with Stevie in Fayetteville.

The W.M.U. of the Lumber Bridge Baptist Church met Tuesday night at the Educational Building. Mrs. Johnnie McGougan gave the program.

The women of the Rex Presbyterian Church met Monday night at the Fellowship Hall.

Mrs. Robert Hall and children Robie and Wayne of Huntsville, Alabama spent last week with Mr. and Mrs. Fred Russel. Wayne is a member of the football team of the

University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa where he is a sophomore.

Mr. and Mrs. Jon Evans of Lumberton gave a dinner party Wednesday night for Mrs. Robert Hall and children Robie and Wayne. Those attending were Mrs. Maggie Covington, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Maxwell and children Jimmy, Sally Lynn and Mary Monroe and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Russell.

Sgt. Glenn Taylor returned to Charleston Air Force Base, Charleston, South Carolina after spending a 21 day furlough with his family. Mrs. Taylor is living at present with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Taylor.

Mrs. H.K. Crawford of Rowland spent the weekend with her sisters, Misses Elizabeth and Lois Sumner.

The Rev. and Mrs. E.C. Taylor were honored for their birthdays Sunday at their home near Lumber Bridge with a dinner given by their children and grandchildren. We wish them many more happy birthdays.

The Community extends its condolences and sympathy to the Weber family in the death of little Christopher Weber, who drowned at Ft. Bragg last Wednesday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. James Shaw and sons Mike and Ronnie spent last week visiting her brother and sister-in-law and Mrs. William Thompson in Bolit, Wisconsin. Jimmy Williford of Sauri Arabia is visiting his grandmother Mrs. J.F. Williford and Ollie Ann. His parents Mr. and Mrs. Billie Williford are expected sometime the last of this week.

Visiting Col. and Mrs. F.R. Weber and Ann during the weekend were Mrs. Robert Irvin of Bucyrus, Ohio, Bill Weber of New York City, New York and Col. and Mrs. R.T. Weber of Bowling Rock. Mrs. Irvin's daughter Kathy who has been staying with Col. Weber

and family and attending Pembroke University and Madison Weber accompanied her home for a visit.

Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Schell spent the weekend with their son and daughter-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Harold Schell and children Sherry and Michael in Charlotte.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Davis announce the birth of a son, Ronnie Jr. Born Thursday July 9, at Southeastern General Hospital in Lumberton.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan McGougan and sons Danny, Joe, Charles and Vance spent last week at the mountains in Western, N.C.

Ernest McGougan is visiting his son-in-law and daughter Mr. and Mrs. Steve Gresham and children in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Mrs. Shelia Dail and sons Scot and Sean of Raleigh spent the weekend with her mother Mrs. N.H.G. Balfour.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Spears spent the weekend with Mrs. Jack McArthur in Fayetteville.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Livingston of White Oak visited Mr. and Mrs. Howard Livingston and children Wayne, Charles, Tammy and Linwood and Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Spears last Sunday.

Mrs. Mae Smith of Fayetteville spent several days last week with Mr. and Mrs. Howard Livingston and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Luther Brock of Hope Mills and son Luther Jr. of Brooklyn, New York visited Mr. and Mrs. Livingston and Mr. and Mrs. Spears, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bryan and children Lynn and Teresa spent last weekend visiting relatives in Charlotte. Mrs. Dennis Taylor of Lumberton spent several days last week with her daughter and family Mr. and Mrs. Bryan.

ETV Star Teaches Art To Head Start Pupils

"Miss Polly", the star of an art show for children on an Arkansas educational television station, visited the Head Start classes at McLaughlin School Monday.

She brought with her Peter, Pepper and Patty Painter, hand puppets, and George, a sock puppet, to help instruct the pre-schoolers in art.

"Miss Polly" is Mrs. L.A. Loibner and she and her husband are in Raeford to visit their son, Steve, who is teaching in Head Start this summer.

The Loibners, who live in Little Rock, Ark., will be in Raeford a week. This is their

first time to visit North Carolina.

Mrs. Loibner conducts three series in art lessons for elementary school children which are shown on educational TV in Arkansas. In addition she visits classrooms several times a week to give art instruction.

She uses the puppets in her lessons to entertain her pupils as she instructs them.

The Head Start students are preparing this week for an open house to be held on Friday morning. The parents and public are invited to tour the school from 9 to 10:30 a.m. James Bowles, director, said.



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