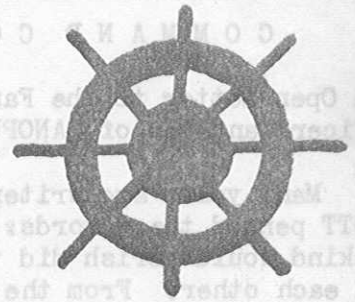


THE

HELMSMAN



VOL.1 NO 3

USS CANOPUS (AS-34)

14 SEPTEMBER 1965

EVALUATION: CHARLESTON HOUSING SITUATION SHOWS IMPROVEMENT

Six hundred new Capehart units, 100 for officers and 500 for enlisted men are now being completed at Charleston and will become available as completed at the rate of about \$20 per week in the period between October 1965, and March 1966. The Capehart housing is considered quite desirable by those already living in this type. Enlisted Capeharts are located at MENRIVERS near the Naval Ammunition Depot and Officer units are on the base at NAD.

Out of the more than 700 units of Naval housing already built and occupied, a small number of vacancies will occur monthly due to normal turnover and some of these may become available to CANOPUS personnel. In addition to Naval housing, there are two government-subsidized private projects, ASHLEY SHORES and SEDGFIELD, near the Naval Base where priority for occupancy is given to Armed Forces personnel who obtain an affidavit from their housing officer. SEDGFIELD offers 3-bedroom units a \$97 per month with utilities extra. ASHLEY SHORES has 2-bedroom units a \$90 and 3-bedroom units at \$102.50 monthly, both with utilities extra. CANOPUS families with no, one or two children may wish to consider these. Present occupants indicate general satisfaction.

What are your chances of getting into Naval housing while at Charleston?

The Housing Coordinator has furnished us with an estimate of the situation as a guideline for your planning. This, of course, is not an official guarantee.

OFFICERS whose dependent status qualifies them for:

- 2-bedroom units. None will probably be available within a year for CANOPUS officers. Get private housing;
- 3-bedroom units. The situation is good. Availability at NAD and status on waiting list indicates some CANOPUS officers can obtain as early as December, all by March;
- 4-bedroom units. Looks fairly good. Smaller number of units available but waiting list is small and AS-34 officers stand high on list. Normal turnover of current units is also helpful.

ENLISTED MEN whose dependent status qualifies them for:

- 2-bedroom units. Here is the same grim picture as officer's 2-bdrm units, so the best thing is to contact SEDGFIELD or ASHLEY SHORES or get private housing;
- 3-bedroom units: The situation is good due to a large number of units and high turnover of personnel. CANOPUS families should begin reaching the top of the waiting list in December with the majority being offered housing by early in January.
- 4-bedroom units. Situation poor, but a few may become available by February or March 1966.

(CON'D ON PAGE 3)

(An Open Letter to the Families of the Officers and Men of CANOPUS:)

Many years ago writer Sir Walter SCOTT penned these words: "The races of mankind would perish did they cease to aid each other. From the time that the mother binds the child's head till the moment that some kind assistant wipes the brow of the dying, we cannot exist without mutual help." You will find that much of this book looks toward helping you when in trying circumstances. Having made this point, I would like to place a Chinese proverb in a balancing position to the effect that, "You cannot prevent the birds of sorrow from flying over your head, but you can prevent them from building nests in your hair." I mean by this that you and I - although preparing ourselves and families for unexpected circumstances, as this book intends - are even more interested in directing our energies towards helping each other in achieving personal goals of happiness, achievement and satisfaction in our daily life and work.

The first basic idea is service to one's fellow men. We, in CANOPUS, tend one of the most awe inspiring weapons conceived by the mind of man. Within its power lies the capability to destroy cities and paralyze nations. Yet we know that, if POLARIS is fired in anger, it will have failed. POLARIS will also have failed if it ever loses its proven capability as the world's most reliable and survivable deterrent to strategic nuclear exchange. We, in our service to POLARIS submarines, must act as the careful shepherd to help prevent this second possibility. I have every confidence that your husbands, fathers, and sons by their attention to detail, perseverance under adverse conditions, and honesty of attitude will render that dedicated service which is a trust placed upon us all in CANOPUS. I would ask you to help your menfolk by providing a home environment of achievement and satisfaction in an important job well done. Given your support in our life of service, we cannot

fail, for we have a second quality that fits us to our tasks.

This second quality is the vast preparation that we have all undertaken to apply our abilities to our abilities to our assigned tasks. I speak here first in the limited sense that I am humbled by the technical excellence that I see demonstrated each day in the solution of complex engineering and logistical support problems. But I am equally proud of the keen intelligence, professional knowledge, leadership ability, and the enthusiasm of the career professionals, officer and enlisted assigned to CANOPUS - and the training the Navy has given them. Intelligence we inherit, but training and a desire to excel builds the gangway of knowledge to the quarter-deck of service. In CANOPUS we have many who have persevered to climb that gangway, not just in the technical sense but as responsible citizens of the United States, and as officers and petty officers in the most powerful naval force in the greatest free nation the world has ever known.

This leads me to the basic quality called satisfaction: It comes from a clean conscience from a job well done; It comes from the respect in your shipmate's eye; and it comes when the number on the pay check increases due to promotion. My goal is that satisfaction be at the highest possible point on CANOPUS. To this end, we will make working conditions the best that we can to meet our ultimate objective and primary mission of providing superior and efficient support to our Polaris submarines that are conducting long submerged patrols on station. We will go the second mile in each person's preparation for advancement and we will nominate our people as rapidly as their maturity and experience adds to their potential. Qualification for the job to be done will be our measure.

I think in closing this letter to the families of CANOPUS personnel, that I should talk about measure. I hope a yardstick has been offered which will help

(continued on page 10)

CROSS-CURRENTS

The death of Albert Schweitzer at his hospital at Lambarene, Gabon, West Africa, has removed from our human scene a man of extraordinary stature, a workaday saint.

Decades ago, already renowned as a physician, musician, philosopher and theologian, he announced his intention to go to isolated Lambarene as a missionary. Horrified, his friends asked him why he intended to waste his life among these benighted people. Schweitzer replied that he felt constrained by the example of Christ and that such a mission was really a privilege.

He rarely returned to the outside world; carefully avoiding the plaudits that an appreciative populace would have heaped upon him. He refused to parrot any of the piously trite phrases that would-be biographers try to pry from their subjects as the "secret" of success. No "paper saint", he refused to be subject to any man except those who had need of him. Forever busy with preaching, healing, writing, and teaching, he "stole" his sleeping hours to play his beloved Bach at the organ he had built with his own hands.

We are prone to measure success by what men are able to accumulate in this life. But the greatness of a man is measured by what he gives as a legacy to other men. Schweitzer was one of those precious few contemporaries like Ghandi and Churchill who have enriched the whole race of men by the surpassing excellence of their character. Like them, Albert Schweitzer was not a "getter" but a prodigious "giver." His fourscore and ten years are a testimony that the real meaning of life is, as the Master said, "If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life for My sake shall find it."

The truth of the matter is that, in helping the Africans of Lambarene, God's man, Albert Schweitzer, helped us all. The life that he "wasted" in

Africa shines with a glory that brightens the far sides of the portals of birth and death. Would to God that we all could "waste" our lives so worthily. It's possible, if we follow the same Lord.

— by Chaplain B.G. Grunder

CHARLESTON HOUSING... CON'D FROM PAGE 1....

To move or not to move?...THAT is the question. If you stand a good chance of getting into Naval housing by December or January, you may want to keep your family at present location until you acquire the housing. This eliminates the trouble and expense of at least one extra move. If you decide to wait for Naval housing, it is important to know how many bedrooms you rate. Few families who rate 2 bedrooms will want to wait for Naval housing. And keep in mind, if you are waiting for Naval housing and your name reaches the top of the list, you must accept the unit for which your dependent status qualifies you or revert to the bottom of the list.

Families rating 2 bedrooms stand to gain little by delaying their move to Charleston except a possible softening of private rental rates caused by the opening of Navy Capeharts for occupancy. Renters—make sure your lease contains a military transfer clause. Ask a legal officer to check your lease before you sign it.

Should you BUY a home in Charleston?

A house that rents for \$150 a month can often be purchased at a monthly rate of \$100 or less. But keep in mind that CANOPUS' homeport will almost certainly be shifted by midsummer of 1966, and you may face the problem of having to sell your home hastily on an unfavorable market. Some CANOPUS men will buy homes for long-term considerations such as retirement, investment, etc., and these will wish to take particular note of the article on Home Financing written for this issue by Campbell, SH1, Career Counselor.

(Ed. Note: In the next five editions the history of the old CANOPUS (AS-9) will be presented in a series of two chapters per issue. The account of the CANOPUS is written by Captain E. L. Sackett, USN, her former Commanding Officer.)

CHAPTER 1

A less likely candidate than the CANOPUS for the role of heroine in a tale of adventure could hardly be imagined. She was no longer young, and had never been particularly dashing, but her partisans were always ready to ascribe a certain majesty to her appearance. Undeniably, she waddled like a duck, as was pointed out in many a good-natured jibe, but that was only natural in a middle-aged, motherly type, and she was truly "mamasan" to her brood of submarines, which used to forage with her from the Philippines to the China Coast and back again each year.

Built in 1921 to be a combination freight and passenger carrier for the Grace Line, she was shortly taken over by the Navy and converted to a submarine tender. She was given extensive machine shops, foundries, and storerooms to provide for the material needs of the "pig-boats", cabins, and living spaces for the comfort of their crews when off duty, and a few guns as a concession to the fact that she was now a man-of-war.

In 1925, the CANOPUS escorted a division of six "S" type submarines of the vintage of World War 1 to the China Station. This imposing force, before the clouds of World War II gathered on the horizon, carried a large share of the burden of showing the Stars and Stripes in Asiatic ports, much of the time in the midst of "incidents" brought on by the spread of the New Order.

Looking back, it is hard to decide just when the war with Japan became inevitable. Perhaps the background was laid when Japan was given control of the Mandated Islands after World War 1. To be sure, these islands, which lay across American life lines to the Philippines, were not supposed to be fortified, but

the Navy, at least, never had any illusions on that score. Throughout the service, there was a general feeling that eventually the Japanese would become open enemies, and that a treacherous blow would be the signal for opening hostilities. We in the Orient were only surprised that this blow landed first on Pearl Harbor, instead of on the Asiatic ships, which comparatively "had their necks out" whenever they visited China ports.

We now know that the Japs wanted bigger game while the advantage of surprise was still in their hands, and probably felt that they could pick off the Asiatic Fleet, anyhow, at their leisure. But Chinese sailors had been made to feel that they were living on borrowed time. In 1940 things looked so bad that their families had been sent back to the States, in spite of their vehement protests, be it said. Those Navy wives were an intrepid lot, and were accustomed to putting up with such hardships and dangers in following their men from port to port, that it took more than a little Japanese menace to make them leave the strange fascination of the Orient voluntarily.

It had always been expected that the CANOPUS, along with other slow auxiliary ships; the destroyer tender BLACK HAWK; the seaplane tender LANGLEY; and the tanker PECOS, would, if possible, be hurried out to safer spots further south when war became imminent, on the basic assumption that the Philippines could not be held for long. In fact, during 1941, war seemed so likely that the Fleet was held in the southern Philippines most of the time.

However, in the fall of 1941, the situation appeared to be growing a little more favorable. Freed of the restrictions previously imposed by national policy, at last reinforcements were arriving in the Philippines, and it seemed that after all there might be a chance of holding the islands. Army planes and tanks were coming in rapidly, and more submarines with their tenders had arrived. Within a few months, when these new forces had been organized, and shaken down into their new environment, the Philippines would obviously be a much harder nut to crack. The war plan was in process of change, (con'd on page 5)

based on the promise that now there was a chance of holding the islands until the Fleet should arrive. Perhaps the Japanese realized this, and decided that it must be "now or never." Their answer was -- Pearl Harbor.

CHAPTER 2

In the fateful first week in December, the CANOPUS had just finished an extensive overhaul at Cavite Navy Yard, and emerged looking more like a war vessel than ever before. Many anti-aircraft guns had been added to her armament, and light armor had been fitted around exposed positions, which later proved of immense value in warding off bomb fragments.

The submarines were considered the first line of defense for the Philippines, and were expected to operate from bases far advanced in the field as possible in order to utilize their maximum effectiveness. But submarines cannot operate long without supplies and repairs, and a surface tender had to be available to supply these services, even though her eventual loss by air attack would be almost a foregone conclusion if she stayed within aircraft range. The CANOPUS was chosen for this sacrifice, probably because the other tenders were newer and faster, and thus better to avoid damage or loss in the open sea. But also involved in the decision was no doubt the fact that the CANOPUS had already demonstrated her ability to care for many submarines of various types and could handle the job alone, as long as she lasted.

When the news of the treacherous blow at Pearl Harbor was flashed at 3:30 A.M. (Manila Time) on December 8th, we knew we had a job to do. There was no further sleep that night. Little knots of men were gathered all over the ship discussing the new situation. The comments heard most frequently were -- "Well, this is why the Navy hired us...", "Now at least we know it was best that our families were sent back to the States...", but most urgent of all--

"How long will it take the Big Fleet to get here?"

That the Fleet would get there in time we did not doubt then, it was only later when the full story of the loss of planes and ships at Pearl Harbor became known, that officers of the Navy, familiar with strategic problems involved, began to have grave misgivings.

The first day was one of intense activity. "Strip Ship" was no longer a practice evolution -- it was the real thing now. The guns had been manned constantly for days, for the Asiatic Fleet was aware of something in the air, and was prepared. But now the gun crews felt something of the tenseness of the hunter, with his finger on the trigger when he hears a rustle in the bushes. Evidently this excitement was general, because our own planes were fired upon by some of the other ships in the harbor, fortunately without damage.

No enemy planes appeared over Manila the first day, but they did strike with deadly effect at Clark Airfield, about sixty miles further north. There they caught nearly all the Army's heavy bomber strength in the Philippines, already loaded with bombs which they only awaited the order from the high command to deliver on Japanese air fields in Formosa. Who can say what the future progress of the war might have been if that order had been given? We know what telling blows even a few Flying Fortresses can deliver and here were squadrons of them, their wings clipped before they were allowed to strike one blow for freedom! Even the protecting fighter planes, which had been circling the field all morning in anticipation of just such an attack, had been called in at the same time for fuel and lunch -- just in time to suffer the same fate as their big sisters lined up on the field. The crowning irony of that disastrous day was the fact that the field's radio station was hit by the first salvo of bombs, preventing them from summoning help from the fighters circling over Nichols Field, barely thirty miles

(con'd on page 6)

away.

It was a perfect example of the advantage an aggressor gains by his treachery--he knows what he is going to do, and how to do it--whereas a paralysis seems to grip his victim with the first numbing blows. He must improvise his plans to meet the surprise onslaught, and lose vital time and material before his plans will fit the situation, which is seldom quite what he had visualized.

At midnight of the first day, another air attack on Nichols Field brought the war to a spot where we on the CANOPUS had a grand stand seat for the spectacle, which looked for all the world like a good old Fourth of July display. From our anchorage off Cavite, just far enough away to muffle the noise, the showers of red and yellow tracer bullets, the sparklers of anti-aircraft bursts followed by the bonfire glare of burning hangars and planes had an unreal quality which made it hard to realize that this was war, and our own countrymen were fighting and dying amidst the conflagration. We learned that fifth columnists had led the bombers unerringly to the target by bracketing the field with flares, and with the help of the brilliant moon, the raiders could hardly miss.

However unreal it seemed, we had no desire to become a pretty bonfire ourselves, so we got underway and steamed around the harbor all night, so as not to be caught napping in the event of an attack. It is a wonderful solace to the nerves to be doing something, no matter how in-effectual, rather than to be a sitting duck, waiting for the hunter to let fly. Unfortunately, even the poor comfort of mobility was to be denied us from that time on.

At dawn the CANOPUS was ordered to go alongside the docks in the Port Area of Manila. This was chosen for the base of operations because when and

and if the expected sinking occurred, the depth under out keel would be shallow enough so that the ship would rest mostly above the water, and valuable stores, torpedoes and equipment could be salvaged. Headquarters for the submarine "Commodore" (Captain John Wilkes, USN) and his staff were set up in the newly built Navy Enlisted Men's Club. Several CANOPUS officers were incorporated into this staff to build it up to wartime proportions. After all, if the ship was not expected to leave port, why waste their services?

Torpedoes and spare parts were hurriedly unloaded, and lightered out to Corregidor, where less vulnerable shops were put into operation. Other stores and provisions were divided up, and one part stowed in a small inter-island ship in the hope that all would not be lost in one attack.

The superstructure of the CANOPUS was painted to match the color of the docks alongside, and camouflage nets spread overhead in an effort to deceive the Japs as long as possible as to our identity. The more exposed fuel tanks were emptied and filled with water to reduce the danger of a disastrous fire which might make it impossible to save the ship if the oil were touched off by a bomb. With the ship as ready as the men could make her, the grim question as to whether the value of her services in the time left to her would be worth the expected sacrifices was all that remained to be decided.

However, the Japanese had their own schedule, and the CANOPUS apparently was well down on the list of objectives. The main air fields had been first, then came Cavite, with again that weird, unreal feeling, because the splashes, fire and smoke were only too evident a few miles away, while the detonations could not be heard. It hardly seemed possible that those swarms of silver winged insects so high in the sky could be responsible for that holocaust across the bay. Now at last our gunners had

a chance to express their defiance by firing at the groups which passed overhead. Unfortunately, it was little more than a gesture of defiance -- for their guns were too small and ancient to have a chance of reaching the bombers at the extreme altitudes they habitually used.

There is a certain empty feeling which attacks the pit of the stomach with the realization that the order "Commence Firing" will not be the usual directive to see how much canvas and wood can be demolished in the shortest space of time, but instead, an order to blast as many human beings into eternity as possible. When the guns start barking, however, the feeling passes, and a fierce exhilaration takes its place, entirely apart from whatever results may be achieved. A man, who has been wondering during the approach of the enemy whether after all he may be a coward, and secretly speculating on a hiding place, forgets all about his fears with the first kick of his gun, and becomes for the moment a killer.

Bomb damaged ships straggled out of Cavite Navy Yard following the attack, and the CANOPUS repair force slaved night and day getting them ready for sea, as well as equipping their regular brood of submarines for offensive patrols. Daily alarms sent the "pig-boats" to safety on the bottom of Manila Bay, but as soon as the marauding planes had left, the "Business As Usual" sign would be hung out again.

This sort of life did not lack for excitement, but was far from being the peace and rest which submarine crews must have to prepare them physically and mentally for the strain of their war patrols. There was every indication that conditions would get no better, and with the Army falling back on Manila, word came that the city would soon be abandoned to avoid complete destruction. Although CANOPUS was still intact, the harbor could no longer be used as a submarine base. The circle of bombing attacks was drawing tighter each day,

and spent bomb fragments landed on our decks.

During the night we got underway for what proved to be our last journey, and steamed out of the Bay toward Corregidor, with great fires and towering columns of smoke astern of us as evidence that the Army was scorching the earth as they prepared to withdraw into Bataan.

We were to set up shop again in Mariveles Bay, on the southern tip of the Bataan peninsula. Some of the submarines were still with us, but now we could hope to do would be to equip this last group for war patrol, and then "turn in our suits" as far as subs were concerned.

(to be continued in the next issue)

THE WARDROOM MESS

The wardroom mess members of CANOPUS are going to be among the best fed officers in the world. Honors go to none other than that great man of menu planning, Master Chef Costello, SD3, of S-6 Division.

Already he has started rolling out menus at the rate of one per day, and the envious eyes of messers Ash, Blanco and Vanta, also of the same division are upon him. This reporter sneaked a look over the shoulder of the chef and was astonished at some of his mouth-watering recipes of exotic dishes that are too numerous to name at this time. However, we will attempt to give the officers a hint of just what is in store for them aboard the ship.

FOR BREAKFAST: Good ole Canopus baked navy beans and corn bread.

FOR LUNCH: Hot steaming frankfurters and sauerkraut.

FOR DINNER: Simmered corned beef with all the trimmings.

And as you know, no meal is complete without coffee, so the good chef has topped it off with that delicious (UGH!) Pascagoula-water brewed stuff.

With all this planning, isn't it a cinch that our officers are going to be a happy lot?

EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

Producing a newspaper, even one as simple as this, can be both confusing and amusing. Your editor and staff claim no great experience in journalism, but we're learning. We learned you can't have a paper without reporters and other contributors to provide a continuing source of material from the interior organization of the crew. Consequently, we're glad to have the aid of men serving as departmental news representatives: Chief Taylor from Administration, Chief Johansen from Deck, Ensign Rhodes from Engineering, Ensign Perry from Operations, Ensign Carver from Repair, Ensign Baird from Supply, and Lieutenant Davies from Weapons. Each of these men have appointed divisional newsmen with eyes and ears tuned for every event. Most of the items concerning the Balance Crew in Norfolk is gleaned from reports submitted by Lieutenant Suprenant, the officer in charge.

National and international news, pictures, puzzles, cartoons, and a wealth of interesting items are furnished to THE HELMSMAN by the Armed Forces Press Service.

Editorial Policy will be to furnish the widest possible range of information that contributes to our knowledge and understanding of events. Let's face it, what happens in Norfolk, Pascagoula, Washington, Karachi and Da Nang has an immediate effect upon us and the whole world. Failure to know and understand events now occurring is a "head-in-the-sand" that invites "the other side" to give us a kick in the fantail when we aren't looking.

SEMPER PER DEIM?

Nucleus Crew personnel are about to face a problem that Balance Crew would be glad to share with them. The problem is, "What am I going to do when the per meim stops?" The answer is simple: YOU'RE GOING TO DO WITHOUT. But those men who have been living too high on the hog are going to do "without-er" than others who have been more careful in spending and saving.

A man drawing extra pay may be able to make the down payment on a dreamboat, but how will he make the monthly payments when the surplus pay stops? The "honey-moon" is about to end. Anyone who feels like King Midas today can wind up a "Pascagoula Pauper" today or a "Charleston Cheapskate" next month. A model-T bill-fold will positively NOT support a Cadillac appetite. So...Watch it!!!



Your America

BY CLARK KINNAIRD

The Declaration of Independence would have been meaningless except for battles fought at great sacrifice later, at Brooklyn Aug. 26, 1776, Harlem Heights, White Plains, Trenton, Princeton, Oriskany, Bennington, Brandywine, Germantown, Saratoga, Stony Point, Paulus Hook, King's Mountain, Cowpens, Yorktown—to name a few.

Americans had to go on fighting doggedly for five years after the Declaration and such reverses as they suffered within the first few months at Brooklyn, Harlem, White Plains, which forced General George Washington to give up New York City, cross the Hudson, and retreat down New Jersey.

In taking possession of New York, General Lord Howe found Turtle Bay up the East River a convenient landing place for his forces and good position for his headquarters.

The next seven years, while the British held possession, New York was the control center of the British imperial efforts to crush the American revolution.

It is good advice to be careful where you park your car in Pascagoula. Last Friday night, the car owned by Langenburg, SK3 was struck by a local resident behind the wheel of one of those "German beetles." Now, the "beetles" had better be on the lookout because Langenburg is planning a campaign to exterminate all those pesky bugs.

Night 'n Day

How do you place carbon paper in a typewriter so you don't print on the reverse side of your original? All men requiring instruction are requested to report to Chief Day. Chief Haynes had been having trouble getting the carbon wrong-side-to in his machine and Chief Day offered to show him the correct procedure. Slapping the carbon between sheets of typing paper, he twirled it into his machine with an impressive flourish and commenced; "Now is the time for all good men. . . ." Then he whipped the sheets off the roller to demonstrate results and, behold, the original was carbon-typed on the reverse side. Now a red-faced Chief Day is looking for someone to show him how.

Alibi-Lullaby

Officially, Deck department regards its defeat by Admin in their last softball game as a "bad ration of luck." Deck's scorekeeper insists it was an 8 to 4 loss but the Admins wrote it up as a 10 to 4 victory. Since they lost anyway, Deck accepts Admin's "erroneous" scorekeeping and looks forward to reversing the score in a future game.

Hot Foot's Cool Technique

"Hot Foot" Brown, CS3, famous for his motorcycle exploits, has been cooling his shoes in back street mud puddles recently. Trying to develop a new and less hazardous method of starting his putt-putt, he hit on the idea of getting another swab-jockey to push him.

The push worked fine. Snarling down the street, Brown looked back to say "Thanks", he immediately bombed-out in a water-filled chuck hole. All you could see was his white hat floating. Brown says underwater visibility was poor but the water was cool!

RUFFLES AND FLOURISHES

The Helmsman expresses sincere thanks to the following individuals without whose assistance the "deadline" would be a huge burden on our frail staff: Mallard, SKSA, who aided typing, Sheppard, SA, who runs the multilith, and Lebrun, OML, who supervised final assembly and stapling.

Three CANOPUS supply officers took away all the honors from the 23 August session of Nuclear Weapons Supply School in Norfolk. LCDR Flach, LT Savage, and ENS Shapack made identical top scores of 3.9. LCDR Flach, by virtue of an especially impressive final exam paper, was named Honor Graduate.

Deck Department welcomes aboard Hesser, GMT2, a qualified Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) man.

Supply thanks Chiefs Anglin and Casart for the fine work they have done toward decoration of CANOPUS' messroom. They have been drawing and sawing for hours at Keesler hobby shop to complete the job.

"Welcome aboard" to LTJG Lebeouf who will be Repair Department's "Repair Technical" Division Officer.

CONDOLENCES

To Chief Mansfield, on the loss of his father.
To Commander Scoggins, on the recent death of his mother.

you find a point from which to start your relationship with the CANOPUS. I hope you will discover some ideas in this letter that will help you see the the real CANOPUS, to see our role in the Navy, and to see your husband's role and contribution to the Navy and his country. I also hope that we get to know each other, not only through your husband's professional performance, but through the various wives' clubs, and that you will participate in our extracurricular activities. Above all, I want you to know that I feel a responsibility for the professional advancement and personal well-being of ever person attached to CANOPUS and stand ready to bring the no inconsiderable energies and abilities of this command and the Navy to assist where needed and warranted.

Welcome aboard and smooth sailing.

Capt. J.M. Barrett, USN
Commanding Officer

A CHALLENGE

Real creativity is being demonstrated by Norfolk Balance Crew officers and men. First, there were some catchy pictures to demonstrate the "go-go" spirit of a good CANOPUS man. Now, a scroll has been received on board APL-47 from Norfolk, causing considerable consternation. Couched in Elizabethan language and carefully illuminated, this scroll is a throwing down of the "gauntlet" that caused faint hearts to flutter and craven knees to quake; an adventurous invitation to joust for the supremacy in "beesball" in the very town named for King Charles himself. The fearsome scroll confronts the brave knights of Pascagoula like an ogre, but many there be who shall, with the invincible spirit of Lancelot, take up the gauntlet so insolently tossed and pursue the cause of honor. With thundering charges around the base paths and with **our** hallowed battle-cry of "Kill the umpire!" let the tourney begin and let the "best of the best" quaff the cup of victory. (10)

First Male Nurse Commissioned in USN

Boston (AFPS) — A former Navy enlisted man, taking advantage of a new program, has been commissioned as the only male in a 2,000 woman-strong organization.

Ensign George M. Silver, who served an enlistment as a Navy hospital corpsman, is the first male nurse to be commissioned in the Navy Nurse Corps.

Following his enlisted service, Ensign Silver enrolled at the McLean Hospital School of Nursing, Belmont, Mass. He was graduated from the school as a registered nurse in 1964.

Specialists Ride 'Shotgun' For Chaplains in Viet-Nam

Son Nhut Airfield, RVN (AFPS) — Air Force chaplain services specialists have an additional duty in the Republic of Viet-Nam. They ride "shotgun" for the military clergy who travel to outlying bases to conduct services.

Chaplains can't carry weapons for self-protection. But the specialists can. They serve as protection for combat zone "circuit-riding" ministry.

Once at their destination the specialists set up altars and perform normal duties.

THE HELMSMAN

USS CANOPUS (AS-34)

FPO NEW YORK, N. Y. 09501

CAPT J. M. BARRETT, USN, COMMANDING OFFICER
CDR M. C. SCOGGINS, USN EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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LCDR B. G. Grander, USN, Editor
Brewton, H.L., SN, USA, Production

HOME FINANCING FOR SERVICEMEN

Many service personnel are now buying homes near their duty stations instead of renting or living in government housing. In most cases, they have benefits available to them which makes it easy to buy a home at low cost, and which are sometimes not fully understood. This information is not meant to steer you into buying a home in Charleston, but only to give you the basic information on home financing so that the prospective buyer can determine what method of financing would be most advantageous to him.

Conventional Loans: A conventional loan is one from a lending institution with NO GOVERNMENT GUARANTEE or insurance on the loan. The collateral or guarantee is the real estate itself. Consequently, the amount of down payment is usually higher than those which are insured or guaranteed by the government. Down payments range from a minimum of 10% to 40% up with interest rates ranging usually from $5\frac{1}{2}$ to 6%, depending upon the qualifications of the buyer. The conventional loan is simple to process and is generally good where there is a large down payment. Interest rates on loans with less than 25% down is almost always 6 percent.

FHA Insured Loans: The Federal Housing Administration (FHA) does not lend money and does not plan or build homes. The FHA aids home buyers by insuring mortgage loans made by banks, savings and loan associations, mortgage finance companies, and other approved lending institutions. This protection enables lending institutions to make insured mortgage loans on desirable terms with small down payments and low interest rates thereby making home-ownership possible for more people. Of special interest to service personnel is the INSERVICE-FHA LOAN. This loan is like the regular FHA insured loan except the Department of Defense pays the insurance cost as LONG AS THE MAN

REMAINS IN THE SERVICE.

Regular FHA loans has a low interest rate of $5\frac{1}{4}$ percent for interest, plus $\frac{1}{2}$ percent for insurance, which totals for $5\frac{3}{4}$ percent.

Inservice FHA Insured Loans: Service personnel on active duty with over two years service are eligible. The advantage of this loan is that the $\frac{1}{2}$ percent insurance rate is paid by the Defence Department. Service personnel who have an Inservice FHA loan who are discharged from the service for over 24 hours must start paying the additional $\frac{1}{2}$ percent insurance immediately upon separation and CANNOT be reinstated even though the man later returns to the service. The average amount of the $\frac{1}{2}$ percent insurance is \$4 to \$8 per month. On a 20-year loan this would be \$1,920.00 SAVED.

This is just one of the many CAREER OPPORTUNITIES that is open to YOU as a service man in our MODERN NAVY. For more information on this subject and any of the other many fine benefits that you are intitled to as a NAVY MAN, get in contact with you Career Counselor today and see how can assist you with YOUR FUTURE.

by Cambell, G.L., SH1
CAREER COUNSELOR

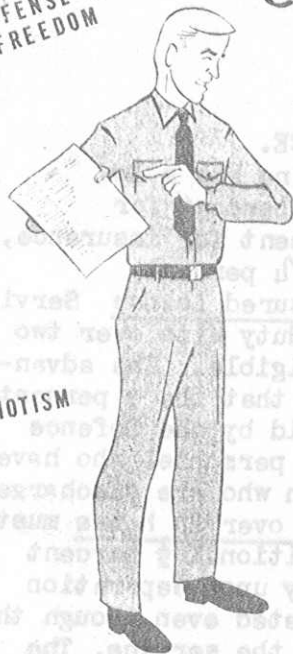
CALLOW HEADS EXHIBIT

Callow, J.D., SN, is currently exhibiting two landscapes in the lobby of the Travel Inn. This prolific artist is already preparing for his next show: The crew's commissioning reception. Any other painters, sculptors, etchers, or what have you, and especially any model shipbuilders, are urged to slap something together for display next to Callow's masterworks.

Callow will co-ordinate the show as special assistant to the Supply Officer.

DEFENSE OF
FREEDOM

talk it up



PRIDE IN
SERVICE

PATRIOTISM

CODE
AFPS

Editorial

Speak Up for Service Life; It's a Proud Profession!

WHENEVER you wear your uniform, you are tacitly telling all who see you that you are capable of defending your country against all enemies. Through basic and advanced training you have been taught necessary fundamentals of the military profession. In short, you are a symbol of America's defense forces.

But is being a symbol enough? How do you react with your buddies when conversation turns to the pros and cons of military life? Are you ready to defend verbally your position as a member of the armed forces?

It doesn't matter whether you're in the service for two years or 20—right now, while you're in uniform, the service is your career. Therefore, it's worth all your enthusiasm and support.

Some may believe the old adage, "Silence is golden," should apply when a fellow serviceman begins knocking the outfit. This is definitely not the case. By remaining quiet, you lose the argument by default. You are, in effect, telling others listening to this disparagement that you have nothing to offer to contradict it.

Even in branches of the service where voluntary enlistments are the only means of admission, there will always be that usual one with three or four years to serve who spends half his time belittling men who reenlist. He hides them about inability to "make it" on the outside. He always gives the impression that he has a job awaiting in the civilian world that only he is qualified for. You may know this is not true; that the "knocker" has no more education or other special qualifications for a job than any of his contemporaries.

But if you "clam up" when guys like this start downgrading your job, then you're little better than your antagonist.

So next time the discussion swings around to the way you earn your livelihood, try talking it up. Let the others know why you are proud to be a member of one of the largest and most efficient organizations in the world. Remind them of the importance of your work. They'll find it hard to dispute you. After all, what you're doing in uniform assures the "knocker" of his freedoms when he leaves service. (AFPS)

Doubled Draft Calls To Take Younger Men

Washington (AFPS) — Doubling draft calls will place a greater load on examining and induction stations and the Army will have younger men in the ranks than last year, said Selective Service System Director Lieutenant General Lewis B. Hershey.

By law, selective service can take all qualified persons between the ages 18½-26. The policy is to take older persons first, then work down to the younger ones.

In several months, more 20-year-olds may be taken.

Draft calls have an impact on the enlistment rate, the general explained, citing figures for the past 20 years which show enlistments increase about 60 days after newspaper notices of increased draft quotas.

Married men and students are not exempt from the draft, General Hershey explained. They are still classified as available, but the policy is to defer them until all single men have been selected.

High-Scoring Sailor Takes Pistol Crown

Camp Perry, Ohio (AFPS) — Aviation Machinist's Mate First Class Donald L. Hamilton, USN, out-shot more than 2,000 of the nation's top pistol competitors to win the National Pistol Championship title in the 1965 National Rifle and Pistol Matches.

Firing an aggregate total of 2,649 out of a possible 2,700 points, he toppled five-time National Pistol champion, Sergeant First Class William B. Blankenship, USA, by six points. Gunnery Sergeant Francis J. Rayford, USMC, was third with 2,639 points.

The National Matches, held July 30 through Aug. 29, are co-sponsored by the National Rifle Association of America and, for the Secretary of the Army, by the National Board of the Promotion of Rifle Practice.

POW Conduct Film Released by AFIE

New York (AFPS) — A new training film on prisoner of war conduct, "Name, Rank and Service Number" (AFIF-138), has been released by the Directorate for Armed Forces Information and Education, DOD.

The objective of the 21 minute film is to demonstrate the effectiveness of the Code of Conduct when it is adhered to by U.S. servicemen who become prisoners of war.

17 CG Patrol Boats Now in RVN Area

Washington (AFPS)—Nine 82-foot U.S. Coast Guard patrol boats have arrived at An Thoi, Phu Quoc Island, bringing the total of Coast Guard vessels assisting Republic of Viet-Nam forces to 17.

All the cutters are operating under the Coastal Surveillance Force Commander, Rear Admiral Norvell G. Ward, whose headquarters are in Saigon.

The boats will operate close inshore with RVN junk patrols to help suppress Viet Cong infiltration.

New Reenlistment Bonus For Some Critical Skills To Be Paid in Installments

Washington (AFPS)—Department of Defense officials are working with the services to put the new variable reenlistment bonus into effect as soon as possible.

No definite date has been set, but one service official estimated it would be sometime in October before certain critical skill reenlistees would begin receiving the bonus.

Under the new military pay law, an individual serving in a designated critical skill could receive several thousand dollars in addition to the regular reenlistment bonus, based on pay grade, term of reenlistment and longevity for pay purposes.

Critical skill first-termers authorized the bonus would receive a down payment upon reenlisting, with annual payments made each year thereafter, an official said.

An example would be a critical skill E-4 completing a four year enlistment and reenlisting for four years. The normal bonus would be \$864, four times a monthly base pay of \$216. If authorized the maximum variable bonus, the individual would receive an additional \$3,456 in four equal installments.

This means getting \$1,728 on reenlistment (normal bonus and first variable payment), then receiving three annual payments of \$864 for a \$4,320 total.

An E-5 under similar circumstances would receive \$5,232. For a six year reenlistment, the amount would be approximately \$7,000.

The new bonus does not count against normal reenlistment entitlements. A person may collect up to \$2,000 in normal bonuses during a service career.

In some meritorious cases, the variable bonus may be paid in fewer installments if the service secretary determines it to be in the individual's best interest.

Are You a Yankee?

New York (AFPS)—What is a Yankee?

Depending upon where you're from, the definition to that word could vary as much as 360 degrees.

To a foreigner, a Yankee is an American; to an American, a Yankee is a northerner; to a northerner, a Yankee is a New Englander; to a New Englander, a Yankee is a Vermonter and to a Vermonter, a Yankee is a person who eats pie for breakfast.

Vietnamese Waif Keeps Vigil For Corpsman Killed-in-Action

Da Nang, RVN (AFPS)—A four-year-old, barefooted Vietnamese girl walks up the main street of the village of Le My every morning. Her face has the stereotyped look of sadness common among children here.

Her daily journey is linked with her sadness. She is looking for the man who gave her the dog-tag she wears and the nickname "Debbie."

Her search is in vain, because the man, Navy Hospitalman Robert P. Dionne, was killed in action last July.

Dionne was attached to the Second Battalion, Third Marine Regiment, Third Marine Division, when the unit liberated Le My from the Viet Cong. He was instrumental in developing a medical aid station for the Vietnamese people and it was during this time he "adopted" Debbie.

She had an eye infection and Dionne was her "doctor." After several treatments, Debbie's eye was fine. She kept coming back to the aid station to see her American friend.

The corpsman would take her by the hand and they would walk to the village "supermarket" to buy soft drinks and candy.

Dionne gave Debbie his dog-tag, a medallion with the Virgin Mary's countenance on it and a rolled penny inscribed with the Lord's Prayer.

Debbie still keeps her daily vigil. Second Battalion Marines who served with Dionne have tried to fill the gap, buying soft drinks and candy, but it isn't quite the same.

In the evening Debbie walks back down the dusty road to her unknown home. The dog-tag engraved "Dionne, R.P." swings to



A MOMENT OF HAPPINESS — Corporal John A. Heffelfinger, USMC, consoles "Debbie" by telling her a story. The four-year-old Vietnamese girl was "adopted" by Navy Corpsman Robert P. Dionne after he treated her infected eye. Dionne was later killed in line of duty, but Debbie, who wears the dog tag he gave her, still comes to the medical aid station to find her American friend.

and fro as she walks. Sometimes she is crying.

It is timely to give attention to the inventors who made the most original contributions between the Wright Brothers and Robert H. Goddard to the use of the air in transportation, attack and defense. Those inventors brought forth the helicopter, now a major factor in the war in Viet-Nam against Communist aggressors.

Marine Assault, Viet Cong Tactics, Cause Officials to Voice Optimism

Washington (AFPS)—Changing events over the past few weeks have led some high United States officials to voice cautious optimism for a solution to the immediate military situation in Viet-Nam.

A change in tactics and the high fatality rate among Viet Cong prompted the present consensus.

Recently, the Viet Cong have invoked terror and harassment on villagers instead of engaging in large unit operations.

This change in tactics is a reflection of the high level of activity by Republic of Viet-Nam forces, officials said, made possible by introduction of United States combat battalions as strategic reserves.

RVN forces previously held in strategic reserve can now be introduced into combat.

The optimism received impetus in mid-August when the biggest United States search and destroy operation of the war in Viet-Nam was conducted against Viet Cong forces about 55 miles southeast of Da Nang near the Marine Corps complex at Chu Lai, on the South China Sea coastline.

The successful assault was made by units of the Marine Corps' 7th Regimental Landing Team, supported by air, artillery and naval gunfire.

U.S. Army helicopters and light observation planes, Navy amphibious ships, a cruiser and destroyer, and Air Force transports participated in the mission, known as Operation Star Lite.

The mission materialized from intelligence reports indicating a Viet Cong force of about 2,000, situated in the Chu Lai area.

Preliminary reports indicate the Viet Cong may have suffered an estimated 1,000 killed, several hundred wounded and more than 100 captured.

Success of Operation Star Lite is attributed to accurate intelligence, quick response and security of operations plans, officials said.

It is anticipated that RVN forces will also engage in future actions in the Chu Lai area.

New Army CG in Korea

New York (AFPS)—Major General John H. Chiles has taken command of the 2nd Infantry Division in Korea, replacing Major General Hugh M. Exton, reassigned to Headquarters, U.S. Army Europe.



WATCH YOUR STEP—A machine-gunner of the Fourth Marine Regiment in the Republic of Viet-Nam, crosses a stream via a bamboo bridge built by the Viet Cong. The Marine was on patrol in the Hue Phu Bai sector.

U.S. Soldiers in RVN Cited by Korean Army

Saigon, RVN (AFPS)—Five U.S. Army men received awards from a Korean general for service rendered Korean units in the Republic of Viet-Nam.

The awards, presented by Brigadier General Moon Hwan Cho, Commanding General of the Korean Forces in Viet-Nam, went to personnel from Alpha Reception Center, Tan Son Nhut, RVN.

Alpha Reception Center processed the first Korean contingent to serve in Viet-Nam.

Those who received awards were: Lieutenant Colonel Clyde W. Carel, Second Lieutenant John A. Brancazio and Staff Sergeants Russell Findley, Russell Sperry, and Allen Hornberger.

Everything Has Its Place

Da Nang, RVN (AFPS)—During a recent search-and-clear operation near here, members of the Second Battalion, Third Marine Regiment, garnered 32 Viet Cong, a rocket launcher, some hand grenades, 81mm mortar rounds, numerous documents, 800 pounds of rice and an expectant pig.

The Viet Cong and their military items were turned over to intelligence officials. The rice, however, went to refugees and the mother-to-be pig was given to a local orphanage.



VC KILLER—The crew of this "Ontos" is credited with 15 confirmed Viet Cong dead after firing a mission in support of "E" Company, 4th Marine Regiment. The Ontos (Greek for "thing") is a self-propelled, anti-tank weapon mounting six 106mm recoilless rifles.

The First Continental Congress met in Philadelphia Sept. 6, 1774. It wasn't until two years later, Sept. 9, 1776, that the Congress first called the colonies the "United States of America."

On Sept. 18, 1793, George Washington laid the cornerstone for the National Capitol.

SPORTS SCENE HEARD

SPORTS WITH WALT

Since the last issue of the HELMSMAN, we find drastic changes in the CANOPIUS (nucleus crew) Bowling Intra-mural league. We find the team that held the cellar for the first five weeks took over first place with a three point margin going into the last and final week of the league. By winning four points two weeks in a row, White Hat's #2 moved from an out of the running position into a comfortable, but not too solid position of the championship lead of this particular league. In this effort we find the week of the 19th being supported by a win of 3 to 1 point victory by White Hat's #3 over White Hats #1. The week of the 26th supported Supply's win over White Hats #1 by a 3 to 1 point victory. White Hats #2 helped their own cause by defeating Officer & CPO #1 Team 4 to 0 and Officer & CPO #2 4 to 0. With a helping hand to White Hats #2 in the second week, the White Hats #3 took their lone (but all important) point from Officer & CPO #1 team.

Within these past two weeks the team honors go to White Hats #2, with a series of 2346 and 2438 respectively; P.J. Cooney, FTOM (what a fire control director) and M.C. Johnston, PN3 (our other conscientious personal record clerk) with an individual high series of 540 and 523, respectively. Individual game honors within the past two weeks go to G.E. Hester with a 226, only a few pins behind him, just missing the 200 mark, was LT Meisner with 191, and Johnston's 199 was only to be surpassed by just four pins of one his own shipmate's, R.J. Williams, YN3, who played for a 203.

Who is going to win this league? Let's take a look at the possibilities. A tie for first place: Teams #1 and 2 losing to #3 (present team standings) or the Adminees White Hats #2 maintaining

their lead and final championship by 1, 2 or more points. Who knows, the league Secretary might have to use his own (on order) crying towels.

A Look at Softball

This paper is in correction. It is not PENTZ's "pea-pickers", commonly known as the "Adminees", but from this date to defeat as "X Division's Chargers". In contrast to the common belief, the desk-jockeys and compartment cleaners are not the lazy pants that most people may consider them. This has been proven by their latest victories over Engineering and Deck. Engineering felt the weight of the typewriter and a few swabs after a down-fall of 20 to 0 (disgraced) while Deck had an easier time losing only by a somewhat more honorable score of 10-4.

Deck also met Engineering in a tight match, to win only by one run with a score of 10-9.

POSE CHALLENGE

The "Chargers" propose a challenge to any and all of the teams that have not yet played, such as Repair, Weapons, and any other team so formed. This is not with conceit, but with confidence. If no challenges are recieved, the "Chargers" will consider playing off their deadlock of 1 and 1 with Supply.

WALT HERRICK, YN1
SPORTS EDITOR-

DID YOU KNOW THAT---

Dave Nicholson of the Chicago White Sox struck out 175 times in 1963?

The Los Angeles Rams set a National Football League record of 466 points in a 12 game season?

(AFPS Weekly Feature)

1. Swimmer Bernie Wrightson of Arizona State University recently won what three titles at the National AAU Outdoor Championships in suburban Toledo, Ohio?

2. How long did it take Cornelius Choy to land the largest catch of the 1965 Hawaiian International Billfish Tournament?

3. First Lieutenant Billy Mills, USMC, recently beat German Distance Champion Lutz Philip by more than 100 meters in the 10,000 meter run in what time?

4. The University of Michigan football team lost its final game to Chicago in 1905 by a score of 2-0. How many points per season did the team average from 1901 to 1905?

5. Who was the first left-handed golfer to win the British Open Golf Championship?

Answer

1. Wrightson swept the men's Zealand won the title in 1963.

2. "Lefty" Bob Charles of New Zealand won the title in 1963.

3. Mills beat his opponent in 28:17.6 (only Ron Clarke has run it in a faster time).

4. The team averaged 565 points per season in the early 1900s.

5. Choy, of Ewa, Oahu, fought a 549-pound Pacific blue marlin for six hours, 45 minutes, in a battle described as "a little bit for the fish, a little for me."

6. Choy, of Ewa, Oahu, fought a 549-pound Pacific blue marlin for six hours, 45 minutes, in a battle described as "a little bit for the fish, a little for me."

7. Groups of three

8. Organ of hearing

9. Chicken

10. Man's name

11. Takes one's part

12. Pardon

13. Man's name

14. Be ill

15. Tibetan gazelle

16. Tidy

17. Nahoon

18. Sheep

19. Workman

20. Triats

21. Consume

22. Sign of zodiac

23. Force

24. Doctrine

25. Be mistaken

26. Fragrant oleoresin

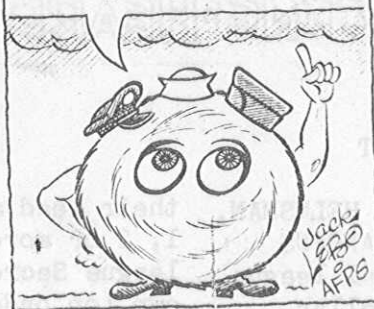
27. New Deal agency (abbr.)

28. Abstract being

29. Brief

30. Short sleep

WHEN WE AKE FLAT ON OUR BACKS...THERE IS NO WAY TO LOOK BUT UP.



Jack Ego AFPS



"HOW DO YOU KNOW YOU WON'T LIKE IT IF YOU WON'T TRY IT?"

The United States' first regular army was established by Congress Sept. 29, 1789. It was to consist of a total of 840 men.

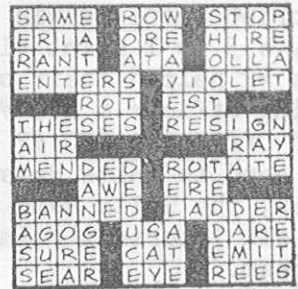
Answer to Previous Puzzle

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1. Snake
4. Hurry
9. Sick
12. Through
13. Wing-shaped
14. Gora
15. Golf mound
16. Fiber plant
17. Large cask
18. Vigor
20. Armed band
22. Quarrel
24. Dance step
25. Actual being
28. Organ of hearing
29. Chicken
30. Man's name
31. Takes one's part
33. Pardon
34. Man's name
35. Be ill
36. Tibetan gazelle
38. Tidy
39. Nahoon
40. Workman
41. Triats
43. Consume
44. Sign of zodiac
46. Force
48. Doctrine
51. Be mistaken
52. Fragrant oleoresin
53. New Deal agency (abbr.)
54. Abstract being
56. Brief
58. Short sleep

8. Organs of sight
9. Probe
10. Meadow
11. A how
19. Pronoun
21. Appear
22. Compass point
23. Out of date
24. Footlike part
26. Surgical thread
27. Teutonic deity
29. Pronoun
30. Swordsman's dummystake
32. Tropical fruit
33. Infet
34. Preposition
36. Repty
37. Paid notice
39. Scarf
40. Exclamation
42. Barracuda
43. Great Lake
44. Confederate general
45. Sea eagle
47. Printer's measure (pl.)
49. Resort
50. Chart



WAITING FOR A SHIPMATE — Pretty Bobsie Bernt relaxes while waiting for a friend to join her in an afternoon sail.



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