

NAVY DEPARTMENT

BUREAU OF NAVIGATION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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BUREAU OF NAVIGATION NEWS BULLETIN NO. 55:

The Bureau requests that this Bulletin be given free circulation among officers and that items of interest be published to the Enlisted Personnel. This bulletin is NOT confidential and may be destroyed at the discretion of the Commanding Officer. Constructive suggestions for improvement will be appreciated.

COMMISSIONED AND WARRANT PERSONNEL.

<u>Commissioned</u>	<u>Ashore</u>	<u>Afloat</u>	<u>Total</u>
Line	1633	3099	4732
Staff	1513	437	1950
Warrant	731	735	1466
TOTAL.....	3877	4271	8148

HAMPTON ROADS TRAINS 27 MEN FOR RESERVE NAVAL AVIATORS SINCE JULY FIRST. Thirteen men, the second class of Naval Reserve Force seamen at the Naval Air Station, Hampton Roads, recently completed training, making 27 men who have gone through the course at Hampton Roads since July 1st. Seven of the thirteen who have just completed the course were from the 9th Naval District, five from the First and one from the Third. These men will receive commissions as Ensigns, Naval Reserve Force Class 5, and will be designated Naval Aviators (Reserve Force).

U.S.S. WEST VIRGINIA - COURT OF INQUIRY. The record of the Court of Inquiry which investigated the grounding of the U.S.S. WEST VIRGINIA in Thimble Shoal Channel, 16 June, 1924, has been reviewed and approved by the Department. No blame was held to have been incurred by any officers or men on board the WEST VIRGINIA; the navigational data furnished the ship from official sources was found to have been inaccurate and misleading, the legends on the charts indicating uniformly greater depth of water throughout a dredged channel of greater width than actually existed at the time of the grounding.

NEW SERVICE RECORD: A resume¹ of the reports submitted on duplicate pages 9 and 10 of the New Form Service Record, in accordance with Bureau of Navigation Circular Letter No. 56, shows the most common errors to be the following: reporting the location of the ship instead of the name of the ship; incomplete chronological record of service in space for remarks, and in a number of cases,

no chronological record was shown: failure to show the signature of officer as prescribed in the instructions: failure to show the old rate as well as the new when reporting a change in rating: omission of marks, special qualifications and details on page 10: incomplete report of transfers from one ship or station to another.

Recently marked general improvement is noted, but of the reports first submitted, those of the U.S.S. CONCORD were the most complete and satisfactory, particularly the entries showing the chronological record of service of each member of the crew since reporting on board. These were very complete and show a careful and comprehensive study of the instructions.

SHORTAGE IN PETTY OFFICERS GROUPS OF RATINGS.

The net shortage in petty officer groups of ratings is approximately 1900, confined wholly to those ratings which Commanding Officers are authorized to advance without prior reference to the Bureau to fill vacancies in complement, as set forth in Bunav. Circular Letter No. 80-24.

This shortage has been maintained at about the same figure for the past few months.

HONORABLE DISCHARGE BLANKS. A new form of N.Nav.6 (Honorable Discharge Blank) has been approved and is now in the hands of the engravers. A sketch of a modern battleship, taken from an actual photograph, will appear thereon in place of the battle cruiser on the present discharge. The new form will include a notation on the face that the discharge is a "Testimonial of Fidelity and Obedience". The entries on the back of the discharge have been modified to bring them up to date.

NAVY MOTION PICTURE EXCHANGE. The following feature motion pictures have been ordered in duplicate by the Bureau and will be distributed from the Navy Motion Picture Exchange as soon as received from the producers.

TITLE

STAR

Hot Water
The Man Who Came Back
The Iron Horse
Hearts of Oak
Desert Outlaw
Circe: The Enchantress
The Navigator
His Hour
One Night in Rome
Sinners in Silk

Harold Lloyd
Dorothy Mackall
Madge Bellamy
Hobart Bosworth
Buck Jones
Mac Murray
Buster Keaton
John Gilbert
Laurette Taylor
Eleanor Boardman

Racing for Life
 Daring Love
 Battling Orioles
 Dynamite Smith
 The Fast Worker
 "K" The Unknown
 Cornered
 Three Women
 Madonna of the Streets
 In Every Woman's Life
 Tarnish
 In Hollywood with Potash and
 Perlmutter
 Life's Greatest Game
 I Am The Man
 Captain Blood
 Behold This Woman
 Clean Heart
 Trouping with Ellen
 House of Youth
 Welcome Stranger
 Ramshackle House
 Another Man's Wife
 Siren of Seville
 Barbara Frietchie
 Into The Net

Eva Novak-Wm. Fairbanks
 Gordon-Astor
 Glenn Tryon
 Charles Ray
 Reginald Denmy
 Valli-Marmont
 Marie Prevost
 Pauline Frederick
 Nazimova
 Virginia Valli
 May McAvoy

Betty Blythe
 John Walker
 Lionel Barrymore
 Kerrigan-Paige
 Irene Rich
 Percy Marmont
 Helene Chadwick
 Jacqueline Logan
 Vidor-Davidson
 Betty Compson
 Kirkwood-Lee
 Priscilla Dean
 Florence Vidor
 Murphy-Mulhall

BONUS. It has come to the attention of the Bureau that on board a number of ships, enlisted men have not sent in their applications for Adjusted Service Compensation, "Bonus", on the ground that no blanks were on board. A supply of blanks was sent to all ships and stations of the Navy. If the supply has been exhausted, application should be made to the Bureau of Navigation for additional copies, or the enlisted men advised to apply to the nearest Recruiting Office, Post Office or Legion Headquarters for blanks.

HYDROGRAPHIC NEWS. During the forthcoming season, the surveying vessels will be employed as follows:

U.S.S. HANNIBAL (Commander W.T. Conn) will sail from the Navy Yard, Philadelphia, December 10, and continue the survey of the south coast of Cuba at Batabano Bay and the Isle of Pines.

U.S.S. NOKOMIS (Commander R. E. Ingersoll) will sail from the Navy, Philadelphia, December 1, and continue the survey of the north coast of Cuba in the vicinity of Cardenas.

U.S.S. NIAGARA (Commander Paul Blackburn) will sail from the Navy Yard, Philadelphia, October 25, and begin the survey of the Gulf of Venezuela.

The U.S.S. ARAMIS has been stricken from the Navy list and converted into a tender to accompany the NIAGARA. The Sonic Depth Finder, developed by the Navy for determining the depth of water by sound, will be extensively used by these vessels.

Aeroplanes of the Air Squadrons, Scouting Fleet will visit the areas during the season and make photographs from the air. Such air photographs have proved of valuable assistance in the past in mapping the shore line and locating shoal spots.

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THE CLOSING BY THE NAVY DEPARTMENT of many radio stations on the Great Lakes, due to lack of funds, was a hardship to the lake merchant marine, but the Intercity Radio Company of Cleveland has generously extended the use of its apparatus for broadcasting nautical information. This service goes far towards meeting the situation and is highly appreciated by the Navy Department and all other interested branches of the government, and by the lake ship owners and mariners.

THE UNION TRUST COMPANY, Cleveland, Ohio, has aided materially in the dissemination of nautical information by placing their radio phone service WJAX at the disposal of the Branch Hydrographic Office, Cleveland. This makes a useful service available to vessels having radio phones of which there are many, and which are not fitted with radio telegraphy.

NAVAL OBSERVATORY. The recent nearness (34,000,000 miles) of Mars to the Earth resulted in special arrangements being made at the Naval Observatory to afford those interested a chance to observe that planet.

Last year there were about 2300 persons who looked at the heavens through the Naval Observatory telescopes. During the months of July, August and September this year, over 1550 looked at Mars alone, over 720 being in August.

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Department Distribution:
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