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**MARCH
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FOURTH NAVAL DISTRICT



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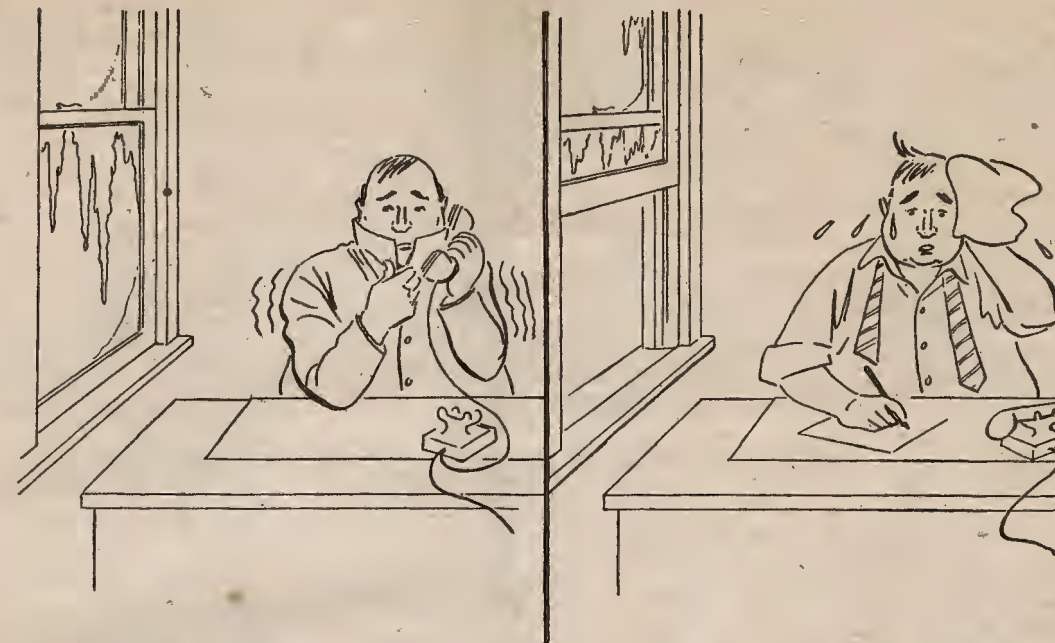
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TOPSIDE

U. S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY
FOURTH NAVAL DISTRICT

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THE STOREKEEPER

★ Few of us today realize the important post held by our Flotilla Storekeeper. In most Flotillas he is looked upon as a mere bookkeeper—the lowliest of clerks. Yet the facts are all against this opinion.

Not only does your Storekeeper keep the records of the duty-hours served by the men, but almost invariably he serves his own twelve-hour trick on patrol, or tower watch, or gate duty. And his importance will be greatly augmented in the days to come.

No one knows exactly what the future may hold for Temporary Reservists. A great deal of legislation has been enacted designed to secure the future of the Regulars both as to financial and employment interests. Just how much the Temporary Reservists may share in this consideration is almost pure conjecture. But the record of America in taking care of her service men is well-known to all of us. Almost anything can happen in the post-war world. Only one thing is certain: Whatever does happen is bound to be based on the number of hours served. Your own conscientiousness in reporting your duty hours, plus the care with which such hours are recorded by your Flotilla Storekeeper, may be very important to you in the days to come.

Already, legislation has been enacted which provides that any member of the Class (T) Reserve who, after the war, may decide to make the military life his vocation, will receive full credit for all the time he has served as a Temporary

Reservist. Not only does this affect a man's eligibility for advancement in rating, but it directly affects his pay, which is related to his length of service. In computing such service, it is the custom to regard even so much as five minutes' work as a full day's stint. The fact that you were on duty on a certain day, regardless of how many hours you may have put in, counts as a day of service.

Unless you report your time served and unless the Flotilla Storekeeper records that time, it can be of no future value to you. This is not to promise that men who have no intention of making the military life their life's work will ever get anything more than praise for the work they have done as Temporary Reservists. Our only intention is to suggest that no one can foresee the future and that in a country noted for its generosity to those who have protected it, anything can happen.

The District Office maintains a meticulously-kept record of the Flotilla Storekeepers' reports where they will always be available to anyone with authority to request them.



WANNA BUY A BOAT?

Any Auxiliarist interested in buying any of the small boats that are frequently opened for bids by the War Shipping Administration, will be pleased to know that the District Office has appointed Lieut. (j.g.) (T) G. Frederick Petry a Committee of One to obtain all authoritative information currently available on boats that may be available for purchase through this source. With "Pete" at the helm, you may be sure of getting prompt and authoritative answers to any questions on this subject which you may address to the District Office.

RATING EXAMS

Just a reminder that arrangements have been made to hold rating examinations on Sunday, 3 June, 1945, at 1000 hours, at the Auxiliary Training Base for the ratings of Cox, BM 2/c, BM 1/c, CBM, MoMM 2/c, MoMM 1/c, CMM. Applications must be filed through your Flotilla commander to be in the Auxiliary office prior to 28 May.



★ As this is written, the American First Army is storming across the Rhine at Remagen. The Nazi nut is in an Allied-Russian nutcracker that even the toughest nut cannot withstand forever.

If I can read correctly the minds of most men in the Class (T) Reserve, they are looking forward hopefully to the day when Germany falls, with the expectation that it will be only a matter of a few weeks thereafter until they will be mustered out or at least until they will be relieved of active duty.

There is no better time than now to stick a pin in that bubble.

The defeat of Germany will mean that the job is only half done. Our Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen are not going to quit at that point — and neither are we! Nor are our war industries going to quit. If anything, the tempo will be stepped up to make as quick an end as possible to Japan. That will mean that our ports will still be filled with American shipping carrying the supplies our men will need in overwhelming quantities to invade successfully the Japanese homeland. Those ports and that shipping must be protected — and we must carry a large share of that responsibility. Even though the center of activity may then shift to the West Coast, our own coast will still be a beehive of activity. We must continue to do our part to see that every boatload of fighting equipment and food and medical supplies and men clears our harbors in safety.

Most of us joined this organization with the thought that we might be called upon to help prevent an enemy invasion of America. We even hoped we might get a chance for actual combat on our shores, might at least get a shot at an enemy submarine or a gang of saboteurs. Practically all chance of that has vanished in thin air. Long ago we settled down to the more prosaic task of preventing sabotage and carrying on the routine duties customarily performed by the regular Coast Guardsmen who have been transferred to other theatres of operation.

That task is far from completed. The collapse of Germany will not mark its completion. Whether the war in the Pacific lasts another year or another hundred years (as the Japs claim it may) we must stick to the job and discharge our duties faithfully and well. Let's get our eyes off the finish tape and pay attention to the task at hand.

— Lieut. Comdr. (T) F. B. Hinehline,
USCGR, commodore, USCG
Auxiliary, 4th ND.

FROM the BRIDGE



WAR DIARY

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY — FOURTH NAVAL DISTRICT
FOR PERIOD OF 16 TO 28 FEBRUARY, 1945, INCLUSIVE

By LIEUT. JOHN W. BROWN, Director

★ Friday, 16 February — The Director proceeded to Washington on temporary orders in connection with the procurement of the Florence V for a training vessel for the Auxiliary in the 4th Naval District, and also to confer with the Chief, Auxiliary Division, and the Chief, Temporary Reserve Division.

Sunday, 18 February — 73 men reported to the Training Base at 1400 at which time the Training Officer, Operations Officer, and Executive Officer of the VPSF addressed the men in connection with the performance of Class (T) Reserve duty in the COPT detail. This assignment will start Wednesday, 21 February, at 1900.

Tuesday, 20 February — The fourteen skippers of the Anchorage Patrol boats entertained the Asst District Operations Officer and two members of his staff at a dinner at the Union League Club. The Asst District Operations Officer was very complimentary in his remarks pertaining to the handling of the two Anchorage Patrol vessels by the Class (T) Reservists during the excessive ice conditions in the Delaware River and Bay.

Friday, 23 February — An Open House was held at the Training Base.

WHAT YOUR DOLLAR DOES

The dollar-per-man that each Flotilla is asked to contribute to help defray the expenses of the District Office is one of the best investments an Auxiliarist can make.

In return for this small contribution, each man receives twelve issues of TOPSIDE, which actually cost more than a dollar-per-man to produce! He receives the benefit of the extensive publicity obtained for Auxiliary activities by the Publicity Committee. He has the services of an experienced Staff Photographer who is available upon request to

Saturday, 24 February — Boat Patrols from CG Operating Base, Port Richmond, were resumed. These three patrols run from dusk to daylight each night. The patrols had been temporarily discontinued owing to ice conditions.

Wednesday, 28 February — The Delaware River Division held a Division captain's meeting at the Hotel Barclay, at which time reports were received from all the River Flotilla commanders. It was the consensus of this meeting that recruiting should be resumed, especially for day men to serve on river patrol and shore duties.

— The final examination was given in the Navigation Class at the Training Base, in preparation for the District Navigator's examination to be held on Sunday, 4 March.

— The District Board of the Auxiliary met and, among other things, entered into a discussion of the unassigned status. It was decided that the unassigned status be used only in those cases where a complete unit may be placed in this status, with the exception that a very limited number of individuals may be granted unassigned status where there is no immediate need for their services in the Class (T) Reserve duties of their Flotilla.

take pictures of significant Flotilla activities. He has been provided with instruction manuals for Tower Watch, River Patrol, Dock Watch, and General Information for men temporarily enrolled in the Reserve. The record books that are maintained at the District Office for recording the hours served were purchased from the dollar contributions.

The many other duties performed by the several Staff Committees all involve expenses for postage, stationery, and telephone which are necessary to the efficient operation of the organization. It's a BIG dollar's worth.

RATINGS & COMMISSIONS CONFIRMED IN FEBRUARY

Flotilla	Name	From	To
31	BROMLEY, John E.	BM1c	CBM
34	LOVELAND, Heber A.	Sea.1c	CBM
27	NEWKIRK, Lowell C.	BM2c	CBM
25	WOODCOCK, Thomas J.	BM1c	CBM
31	McCAHAN, William J.	GM2c	CGM
27	HERZOG, Arthur G.	MoMM2c	CMoMM
27	KOEHLER, John L.	BM2c	BM1c
13	ALLEN, Clarence L.	Cox.	BM2c
16	ELWELL, Carlton F.	Cox.	BM2c
16	RANKIN, Carl	Cox.	BM2c
25	EULER, Horatio N.	Sea.1c	MoMM2c
22	EVANS, Harry R.	Sea.1c	MoMM2c
22	KEATES, Wesley G.	Sea.1c	MoMM2c
15	LEWELLYN, Richard	Sea.1c	MoMM2c
15	WILLIAMS, Lionel	GM3c	MoMM2c
22	WILLIAMSON, Herbert D.	Sea.1c	MoMM2c
32	WINGATE, Leroy	GM3c	GM2c
27	HEWITT, Charles O.	SK3c	SK2c
53	JOHNSON, Guy R.	SK3c	SK2c
32	CHEW, Robert H.	SC3c	SC2c
23	HUNTER, Harry W.	SC3c	SC2c
24	MEDERNACH, Harry L.	SC3c	SC2c
22	RODGERS, Louis	SC3c	SC2c
22	STEFFENS, Clifford M.	SC3c	SC2c
22	SPENCER, Albert	Sea.1c	Cox.
11	BROWN, Eugene H.	Sea.1c	GM3c
27	MADDEN, Horace J.	Sea.1c	Y3c

CHARLIE NOBLE

A British merchant service captain, Charles Noble, is said to be responsible for the origin, about 1850, of this nickname for the galley smokestack. It seems that Captain Noble, discovering that the stack of his ship's galley was made of copper, ordered that it be kept bright. The ship's crew started referring to the stack as the "Charley Noble," and the practice spread throughout the British merchant service. It later was taken up by the British and American navies and is still in use.

—Bureau of Naval Personnel Information Bulletin.

BOX SCORE

DURING PERIOD OF
16 TO 28 FEBRUARY, 1945, INCLUSIVE

Number of Men Enrolled in the CG Auxiliary	0
Number of Men Sworn in the Class (T) Reserve	17
Number of Class (T) Reservists Issued Uniforms	8
Number of Men Disenrolled from the Class (T) Reserve	17
Number of Additional Men Assigned to Active Duty	85

CUMULATIVE TOTALS
AS OF FEBRUARY, 1945

Number of Men Enrolled in the CG Auxiliary	3478
Number of Men Sworn in the Class (T) Reserve	2146
Number of Class (T) Reservists Issued Uniforms and Available for Duty	2076
Number of Men on Active Duty	1867

All expenditures are carefully considered in advance by the District Board, and a Certified Public Accountant makes periodic audits of the finances. These audits are available for inspection at the District Office, on request. The funds of the Auxiliary Foundation are maintained in an entirely separate account.



THE MYSTERY of the FLOATING PACKAGE

★ The most unusual things do happen in the Auxiliary — incidents that relieve the monotony of routine duty, and make swell material for a good yarn in the shore barracks, wheelhouse, or Flotilla meeting.

For instance, we recall one warm summer day back in 1943 when the old 1168, manned at the time by Flotilla 25, was lazily riding at anchor on the Mathis; Penn-Jersey Ship Yard patrol area. It was about mid-afternoon, and, with nothing much to do except watch passing river traffic, we of the crew were taking it a bit easy. In fact, things were a trifle dull, and the hours were beginning to drag, as they will on this type of standby patrol.

Such was the situation when along about 1500, we were hailed by an approaching picket boat and given orders which, to say the least, were somewhat out of the ordinary. We were instructed to get underway immediately and thoroughly search the surrounding river area for anything that might resemble a package or bundle of letters. We were naturally mystified until we learned later that it was all part of a special F.B.I. spy investigation, centered around the recent docking of a neutral ship. It appeared that a passenger or member of the crew had been suspected of having surreptitiously thrown overboard papers which might prove incriminating and have some relationship to Nazi activities. Hence the search!

We proceeded on our strange quest and patrolled for hours, investigating

anything and everything that even vaguely resembled what we were looking for. Nothing seemed to come of our efforts and we were on the point of returning to Port Richmond Base, when one of the crew members observed through a pair of glasses, a white object floating some distance away. Not too hopefully, Skipper E. J. Pearl swung the boat around, speeded up and headed toward it. As we drew closer, we saw that it certainly was a small package; no doubt THE package! The Skipper at first had some difficulty in maneuvering the boat into a desirable position, as a tricky and swift current seemed always to carry the object beyond reach just as our improvised boat hook and bucket were about to scoop it out of the river. In fact, the writer, leaning out too far during one futile attempt, almost went into the drink. But, at last, we succeeded in getting it aboard.

We were all plenty excited by this time and felt sure it was the real "McCoy." Already we could visualize the news headlines:

**F.B.I. UNEARTHES NAZI SPY PLOT
CG RESERVE FISHES EVIDENCE
FROM DELAWARE RIVER!**

— so, the cord of the water-soaked package was cut, the wrapping removed and there before our astonished eyes was — not, as we had expected, a code book, spy letters, or military plans — but a rather odorous collection of egg shells and potato peelings!

—JOHN T. DWYER, CBM (T),
Flotilla 25.

COMPENSATION FOR INJURIES TO MEMBERS

1. Under the Act of Congress approved September 30, 1944 (known as the Rivers Act), persons temporarily enrolled in the United States Coast Guard Reserve, and members of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary are entitled to compensation for disability or death resulting from physical injury while in the performance of duty. Such persons are also entitled to certain hospitalization.

2. The compensation is to be fixed and the law administered by the United States Employees Compensation Commission pursuant to the Act of Congress approved September 7, 1916, as amended, (USC, Title 5, Secs. 751-791). Pertinent provisions of that law are as follows:—

- No compensation is allowable if brought about by (1) the wilful misconduct of claimant; (2) intentional self-inflicted injury; or (3) intoxication.
- Injury may include disease proximately caused by the employment.
- Two-thirds of the monthly pay is allowed for total disability, not to exceed \$116.66 per month.
- Two-thirds of the monthly pay is allowed for partial disability less present earning capacity.
- Notice of injury must be given to an immediate superior within 48 hours.
- Written claim must be filed with Commission on forms supplied by it within 60 days.
- Time limits may be extended for reasonable cause shown.

3. Certain further provisions of the Rivers Act are pertinent as follows:—

- Members shall be deemed to have a monthly pay of \$150.
- No compensation is allowable if the member is entitled to workmen's compensation under State law.
- If the member is entitled to compensation under United States law, he must elect which benefit he will receive.
- Upon the filing of a claim with the Commission, the Commission shall notify the Commandant who shall cause the facts to be investigated and report thereon to the Commission.
- Injuries occurring subsequent to February 19, 1941, are compensable. Notice and claim with respect to injuries incurred between February 19, 1944, and September 30, 1944, are timely if filed within one year from September 30, 1944.

4. In compliance with the provisions of Paragraph 4(d) above, a directive has been issued by Headquarters requiring a Board of Investigation be set up to inquire into the facts of a case and to report thereon. Accordingly, a percept, dated 31 January, 1945, has been issued by the District Coast Guard Officer appointing such a Board and rules of procedure will be promulgated by the Legal Department.

5. The personnel of the Reserve (T) and the Auxiliary should be advised of their rights and when a claim is made the matter should be referred to the Staff Legal Committee so that the claimant may be properly instructed in the filing of his claim and represented before the Board of Investigation if he so desires.

6. A letter has been sent to Flotilla commanders, incorporating advice with respect to members' individual insurance or accident policies.

Bertram K. Wolfe, Lieut. (j.g.) (T)-USCGR
Chairman, Staff Legal Committee



AMONG OUR SERVICE MEN

Leon Cheeseman, formerly active in Flotilla 32, and now with the U. S. Navy in the Pacific Fleet, was home on a short leave recently.

Jeff McGee, of Flotilla 52, now in the Navy, has been promoted from S 1/c to Q 3/c. John Q. Murphy, of the same Flotilla, was inducted into the Armed Forces on 14 February.

Flotilla 27, Salem, has the following names inscribed on its roll of honor: Army — John M. Waters; Navy — Richard Hine, Francis North, George H. Widger, William T. Hilliard, 3rd, Isaac W. Bacon, John A. Davis, Donald S. Henderson; Merchant Marine — Isaac R. McFarland.

Aaron Solomon writes from his new "Base" and gives us the first report we have had since he was transferred from the U. S. Coast Guard Reserve (T), Flotilla 53, Anchorage Patrol, to the Navy. Aaron had a fine record of service and many hours to his credit when Uncle Sam transferred him. He writes: "Just a line to let you know I arrived at this training station. This is an enormous base and everything is run as a taut ship. I have been made leader of a platoon of recruits, mostly 17 and 18 year old boys. I received an Honorable Discharge from the USCGR (T). They would not swear me into the Navy until I got it. It sure has done me a lot of good here. Through it, I am able to get a lot of extra freedom. I don't have to hit the sack at 2130 and am able to use the C.O.'s office. The training I received in the Coast Guard sure has come in handy. Mostly, the classes here are on seamanship, watches, guard duty, and most everything pertaining to the things a sailor should know I had covered thoroughly on the Anchorage Patrol. I think that anybody who might enter the Regu-

lar Service at sometime should try to get on that patrol. Tell the boys I said 'hello' and to keep up the good work they are doing."

After being moved from pillar to post almost as fast as he could pack and unpack his gear, Travis deGrouchy, Flotilla 23, now in the U. S. Coast Guard, has settled, for the time being at least, at the following address: U. S. Coast Guard, N.T.S. — N.A.B., Unit D — PF 4 Norfolk 11, Va. If anyone has strength to write him after addressing the envelope, he'd welcome news from his former buddies.

Edward R. Fuller, one of the founders of Flotilla 18, is now a Colonel in the Air Corps, attached to the 21st Air Force, in command of the B-29 Base on Guam. His son, Donald, was lost on 5 January on his first B-29 mission. Mrs. Fuller recently attended a meeting at Flotilla 18 to see the movies of the Recapture of Guam, where her husband is stationed.

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

To: ALL PORT SECURITY
PERSONNEL

Subj: Performance of port security functions

1. Three years ago today — on 25 February, 1942 — The President of the United States signed an executive order pursuant to which the Coast Guard was delegated the responsibility for taking all possible steps to provide for the protection of vessels, harbors, ports, and waterfront facilities. As the Coast Guard enters upon the fourth year of its port protection program, I welcome this opportunity of paying well deserved tribute to all port security personnel for the magnificent job which they are doing in preventing fires and other injury to our ports and vessels therein. I wish to pay special tribute to the thousands of Temporary Reservists whose fine patriotism and many personal sacrifices have not only contributed materially to the success of our port security efforts, but have facilitated the release of a considerable number of men for participation in the Coast Guard's combat activities.

2. I am sure that all of you are keenly aware of how tremendously important it is to prevent catastrophes in American ports which would impede the steady flow of supplies and men abroad — so essential to the war effort. Some conception of the magnitude of our task may be gained by analyzing the fact that to launch the invasion against the tiny island of Iwo, there passed through our ports enough fuel oil to make a 238 mile

long train of tank cars of 10,000 gallons each — enough gasoline to run 30,730 automobiles for a full year — enough lubricating oil for one complete change for 466,000 automobiles — enough food to feed a city the size of Columbus, Ohio, for 30 days — and enough ammunition — bombs, shells, rockets, torpedoes, and cartridges — to fill 480 freight cars. Iwo is a grim reminder of our job ahead, but I am confident that all of you will continue to perform your duties with efficiency and alertness.

/s/ L. T. CHALKER,
Acting Commandant.

INDORSEMENTS

To: District Temporary Reserve
Personnel Officer

Via: DCGO — 4th NavDist

Subj: Performance of port security functions by temporary members of the U. S. COAST GUARD RESERVE

Forwarded with congratulations for a job well done. Temporary members of the U. S. Coast Guard in the 4th NavDist have established a pattern of cooperation that can be very readily adopted in all ports throughout the United States. Certainly, no tangible reminder of your magnificent record is needed at this time — it speaks for itself. To each Temporary Reservist in the 4th NavDist I extend sincere appreciation for the outstanding service rendered not only to the Coast Guard, but to the Nation as a whole.

/s/ E. DESSES,
Commander, USCG,
Asst. Captain of the Port.

DCGO 4ND
5 March, 1945

To: District Temporary Reserve
Personnel Officer

Forwarded.

L. E. WELLS,
Asst DCGO.



OCEAN CITY WINS MATCH

In a pistol match held recently at the Customs House, the team from Flotilla 31 defeated the best that Flotilla 23 could offer by the score of 1,886 to 1,764. Approximately 13 men from each Flotilla participated. High scores were made by Olsen of Flotilla 23 and Jones of Flotilla 31.

Ensign (T) Norman H. Derr, Staff Chairman of Gunnery, reports that the success of the match was owing in no small measure to the work of R. G. Heron, CGM, William McCahan, CGM, Frank Yeager, GM 3/c, and Horace Griffith, GM 2/c.

The LOG of AUXILIARY FLOTILLA ACTIVITIES

FLOTILLA 52, LANCASTER — Ralph A. Taylor, CBM (T), has taken over the helm of 52, after his election by popular acclaim of Flotilla members, who reluctantly said farewell to Lieut. (j.g.) (T) O. L. Williams, the past commander, now serving as captain of the Eastern Penna. Division, Fourth Naval District. "Woody" Williams' promotion was a source of pride to every member of the local Flotilla, who recognized in it a fitting tribute to the past commander's masterful handling of men and situations, so often displayed during his incumbency of the Lancaster "pilothouse."

Mr. Taylor, likewise, holds the respect and esteem of his fellow Auxiliarists, and had already evidenced the necessary qualities of leadership. To both men, Flotilla 52 extends sincere wishes for "clear skies and smooth sailing."

Ominous weather conditions in the Susquehanna River basin have prompted USCG Auxiliary action here. Ice, jammed shore to shore, threatens trouble when and if sudden thaws develop in the area. Flotilla 52, cognizant of the danger, has named a committee to make a survey of all boats and radio equipment available here. Chief William Landis will train rescue crews, and the equipment search has been placed in charge of these members: Boatswain Gardner Wilson; J. P. Schleenbaker, CMoMM; William Kinn, CBM; and Art Norris, GM 2/c.

The local "old salts" will get together with a barrel or so of Chesapeake Bay "briny boys" in the near future, with Frank Evans on the galley detail. Such gatherings were great morale builders, when recent duty assignments meant traveling through 76 miles of snow-and-ice-choked countryside to reach bases on the Delaware.

Courses now current, or to be offered in the near future, include Motor Machinist, Radio, and Navigation. The Motor Mac course is already underway, with Dan Flory, CMoMM, in charge. Radio and Navigation courses will be started in the very near future.

C. W. Kloit, one of our faithful members, is now serving on the mercy ship *Gripsholm*, and has returned from a trip overseas at the time of this writing. He hopes to attend the next Flotilla meeting and recount some of his interesting experiences.

A lively interest is being shown in the

new series of gunnery instructions given by genial Art Norris, GM 2/c, assisted by Marlin H. Bauman, S 1/c.

Walt Splain is considering taking all his meals at Pier 181 now that all those lovely SPARS have added that feminine domestic touch to the chow. —Vincent F. Kingston, Publicity Officer.



FLOTILLA 53, HARRISBURG

Residents in the Susquehanna River valley who daily watch ice jams in the river mount above the banks and road levels and remember the floods which followed such conditions in 1936, can rest assured that everything possible is being done in advance by this outfit to live up to the motto of the service, "Semper Paratus." Six men from the Flotilla have been assigned to duty of at least six hours each week on a Flood Emergency Survey Committee, of which John Stapf is the chairman.

Sterling G. McNees, our skipper, has charged this group with the task of making a factual report as to the boats and equipment available in the Flotilla, how long it will take to put such boats in commission, their size and power, and their availability. In addition, the committee will also conduct a comprehensive study of other conditions with a view to making recommendations as to other equipment which will be needed in the event of a flood.

Others who are serving on the committee include H. F. Bard, C. J. Napitonia, George W. Reilly, III, Richard E. Shingler, and William Schulz. The committee organized and held its first meeting on 29 January at which time assignments were given out and pertinent Flotilla records placed at their disposal. Official opinions as to whether the Susquehanna valley will be flooded this year vary considerably. Most people seem to agree that only ideal conditions will prevent a recurrence of conditions in 1936. One of the best arguments advanced for the formation of a Flotilla in Harrisburg was that there would be a trained, uniformed, and disciplined crew of boatmen ready to function in such an emergency. Now that the need seems immin-

ent, our skipper has determined that we shall not be caught unprepared.

Harrisburg is a strategic rail and war production center and it will be our job to see that the production and flow of these vital war materials is facilitated, in addition to rendering what help we can in evacuating and caring for people forced from their homes by rising water.

When we wrote the last piece for TOPSIDE, we did not reckon with the full fury of the weather man. We said something about the motto of the Post Office Department and that rain, and snow, and hail, and sleet had not prevented us from keeping our duty schedules. It hadn't at that time, but it has now. Three cars of Flotilla members were wrecked recently while going to or coming from duty at Essington. Fortunately, no one was hurt beyond a severe shaking up, but in these days of scarcity of automobiles and the like, plus the cancelling of patrols at Essington, we have been relieved of duty schedules for a while. Radio watch at Port Richmond, which is much more accessible by train, has not been interrupted.

Meantime, Flotilla meetings and class instruction go on as scheduled. We meet every Monday night in the hearing rooms of the Public Utility Commission in the North Office building of the State Capitol group. Why don't some of you other Flotillas pay us a visit some time? —Paul C. Applegate, Publicity Officer.

FLOTILLA 11, ATLANTIC CITY

Under the able direction of our new staff of officers, headed by Lieut. (j.g.) (T) Bill Errig, Flotilla 11 is moving ahead by leaps and bounds.

Never has such a profound interest in instructional classes been shown before as is now being exhibited by those men studying under the tutelage of CBM (T) Gil Mansfield and Eugene Brown.

Gil Mansfield, aided by Warren Davis, is ably directing the navigation class, which consists of some thirty men, who are preparing for forthcoming rating and Navigator's exams.

Eugene Brown's exceedingly fine knowledge of Gunnery is being put to good use in his handling of the forty men under his guidance in the Gunnery Classes held each week. Those certificates already awarded are being enviously eyed by the rest of the Flotilla.

A new watch detail at the Coast Guard Radio School here has been taken over by the Flotilla and the reports of the work done there by our men, under the direction of Jim Cullen, have been excellent in every aspect, and it has been the privilege of the Flotilla on many occasions, to be publicly commended by the School's Commanding Officer, Commander Thomas Hussleton, USCGR.

Our annual dinner dance, held at the Atlantic City Country Club, 7 March, proved to be a huge success. The dinner this year, an informal affair, was highlighted by an award made by the staff officers to commander Bill Errig. The award, a set of matched pipes and humor, was made in appreciation of his fine leadership and untiring efforts for the Flotilla. One of the most modest of men, Bill has for three years spent a great deal of his extremely valuable time working for the Flotilla. It was with unanimous accord that the award was made to him. —James Dooley, Publicity Officer.

FLOTILLA 15, POINT PLEASANT

February might be the shortest month in the year but it was crammed full of activities for members of this Flotilla both inside and out — and the outside was mostly confined to the shoveling of snow. If there ever was a record for snowfalls along the Jersey Coast, the shortest month in the year of 1945 walked off with all prizes.

As for the inside, that oyster stew came out on 2 February with big Spike Stengel, our galley chef, doing the preparing and serving and we can say right here and now our gobs went into those oysters and crackers like ducks do to water. We hear that Ed Lehman took all prizes for consuming the most, the actual count not having been recorded because Billy Boyd can only count to 55 and he had to stop after that. Anyhow, the stew was great and Spike got a big pat on the back for the repast.

Errickson, Y 1/c, got a little relief from his bookkeeping duties and handling the cash and now Edward Williams, S 1/c, is the cashier or treasurer of the Flotilla. Yes, Eddie, who, by the way, is postmaster in Point Pleasant Borough, was elected to his new post on 16 February.

Our new officer in charge of Bay Head station, Ray Gifford, is proving a regular guy and takes care of the movies for us as per usual.

Of course, our clothing officer, Charlie Lemke, has been on the jump during the month and when some of our members get their notice that the year's allowance in clothing awaits them at the locker room, Lemke, SK 3/c, will need a truck to haul down the orders.

One boy that our members are going



CLASS (T)—FOR TONNAGE

After months of deliberation, telephone calls, and letter-writing to the city of Brotherly Love, this 305-pound Temporary Reservist, Elmer Errickson, Y 1/c, has finally cornered enough material to get a New York tailor to outfit him in regulation "Blues." That rating badge has plenty of arm to lean on.

to miss is Mike, C 3/c, who left us on Monday, 28 February. Mike was a swell guy, a good cook, and he surely looked out for us boys on watch duty. All we can say is the best of luck, Mike, and may your troubles be little ones because we learn that you are expecting a blessed event sometime late this spring or early summer.

The boys taking the Coxswain course were put through their signalling on 16 February, by Seaman Wayne Bixby, an ex-gob from the last war and a wireless man, at that. Wayne knows his dots and dashes and if his students listen to him, they will know them, too, when they finish — which they hope will be within a couple of months.

Dame Rumor has it that our commander, Henry Moore, is expecting to take a trip to sunny Florida any day now and by the time this goes to print he will more than likely be sunning himself down there. If this does take place, then our Boatswain Dick Hubbard will be the lad to draw the salute as you enter on board.

CBM Larrabee has been in trouble with a bad cold of late and watching him at a meeting with an inhaler in one hand and a hankie in the other, brought tears to all the other gobs assembled. Our hopes for a speedy recovery, Al.

There is a report going around the main deck that a debating team is about to be formed and Billy Boyd, who is a great arguer, will be appointed head of the team. If so, we'll bet on Flotilla 15.

In closing, we hope that our new cash collector will get busy because we are going to owe some 45 bucks down Philadelphia way for our annual assessment

by 1 April and if "no can do", some one is going to be minus a TOPSIDE and that just can't happen. Good luck, Eddie, in making those collections and how's about you guys helping Eddie out by going up to see how you stand after each meeting? —Elmer K. Errickson, Publicity Officer.

FLOTILLA 21, QUAKER CITY — The month just past proved to be one of mixed emotions for all of us in Flotilla 21. Early in February, we learned that Samuel A. McClay, son of our Monday night patrolman, William J. McClay, had been killed while serving with General MacArthur's forces on Luzon, 23 January. This was the first time that the war had claimed one of the sons of our own men, and we know that the entire Coast Guard Auxiliary in the Fourth Navidist will join with us in paying tribute to this young hero and in extending sympathy to his parents.

On the lighter side, 21's Annual Business (?) Meeting, held on 24 February, at the A.O.H. Hall, went off with a bang and a fine spring evening helped to turn out a record crowd, and everyone reports having a marvelous time. Once again, Buckey Fox delivered a top-flight show through the cooperation of the USO, and he himself functioned as master of ceremonies. However, entertainment and refreshments notwithstanding, the high spot of the evening was spaghetti platters which disappeared at an amazing rate.

These get-togethers have proved so successful that the echoes of one have not died down before everyone insists that the next one be scheduled. Therefore, another treat is coming up over the horizon for 21 April and Francis Coll, chairman of the entertainment committee for this event, promises us a real surprise.

Another of the more pleasant treats during recent days has been the return of former junior commander Omar Kinsley. Omar is back from a year or more in the South Pacific, and while it looks extremely natural to see him sitting up at the officers' desk on meeting nights, you can be sure that the three full stripes of a Commander are plenty impressive. Aside from a very handsome South Sea tan, Omar Kinsley is exactly the same likeable, friendly egg who left so many months ago with the ATC. All of us wish him continued success in whatever duty his reassignment places him.

In behalf of the entire membership of Flotilla 21, you are invited to attend the Open House at the Training Base, 1011 Chestnut Street, on Friday, 23 March, at 2000. On this evening, it will be Flotilla 21's privilege to play host and an interesting and entertaining program is promised. —Frank T. Kessler, Publicity Officer.

(Log continued on Page 12)



SHORE PATROLS

By ED. L. JOHNSTONE, CBM (T)

★ Between Cape May and Manasquan Inlet lies a section of the Jersey Coast upon which there is everything from the pleasure palaces of Atlantic City to the desolate waste of the salt marsh. On this hundred-odd miles of shoreline the Canada goose and boardwalk auctioneer give forth their characteristic cries almost within ear-shot of each other. The fiddler crab and the bathing beauty alike recoil shyly from the reaching thrust of the gentle summer surf. The howling north-east gales of winter drive the muskrat to his house and the bon-vivant to the shelter of the cocktail bar; sand from towering native dunes coats down the wind to mingle with the macadam of the city streets. The contrasts of this area represent a spread from virgin wilderness to the acme of civilized progress.

With the advent of war, this strip of ocean front became at once a grandstand seat in one arena of naval action and a zone of great hazard to our national safety. To the United States Coast Guard fell a major portion of the respon-

sibility of protecting this section of the coast from potential invasion and to render assistance in case of distress. As the machinery to safeguard our shores began to function, the work of the Class (T) Reservist of the Coast Guard took on deep and valuable significance.

From the rolls of the Auxiliary came those men who were willing and eager to give of their time and their energy to contribute to the total war effort. They it was who volunteered to take on every duty that they were qualified to perform and to further study and prepare themselves in order that their effectiveness might be enhanced. The enabling legislation which created the Auxiliary as recruiting and training units served to stimulate enrollments in the Reserve (T) and to make increased personnel available. Just how rapidly the Class (T) expansion took place, how duties were assigned and how regular Coast Guards were released for vitally important duties are stories that have been heretofore told. But it is appropriate at this

time to, in a sense, sum up in general terms the activities of the shore Flotillas in the Northern and Southern New Jersey Divisions.

Lieutenant (T) Harry Attmore, Chairman of the Staff Committee on Shore Patrol, together with Lieutenant (T) R. Earle Leonard and Lieutenant (T) H. Earl Huston, captains of the Northern and Southern Divisions respectively, have cordially responded in furnishing the basic information for this summary story. Their enthusiasm over the manner in which the work has been conducted, over the splendid relationships which have existed between regulars and Class (T) men, and over the value of this duty experience in connection with post-war planning for the Auxiliary is sincere and infectious. Their commendation of the efforts of the officers and men of the Flotillas concerned is without reservation in all cases where the traditions and precepts of the Coast Guard have been respected. They give due credit to the work of the operations officers in stimulating men serving under them to high performance. They point out how anxious the shore Flotillas have been to receive both regular and Reserve (T) officers at Flotilla meetings in order that Flotilla activities can be critically viewed. They expressed their appreciation of the cooperation extended by officers of the

Coast Guard in accepting the earnest efforts of Class (T) men. It all adds up to evidence of a splendid working relationship that has unified this aspect of national defense.

Those Flotillas which are considered as strictly shore units are as follows: Cape May 35, Wildwood 33, Stone Harbor 32, Ocean City 31, Atlantic City 11, Little Egg Harbor 18, Seaside Park 13, Toms River 16, and Point Pleasant 15. In addition, Maurice River 34 has assigned men regularly to shore duties and therefore has participated in some of the activities noted below. The scope of work done by Class (T) men from these Flotillas is very creditable. Originally, certain of them were assigned to inlet and offshore patrol vessels but the real volume of work began with the inception of the commercial fish dock patrols. This dock duty, now abandoned, will live long in the memories of those who participated. It was the first mass experience in carrying out a military detail, but it was not long before the kinks were ironed out and organization superseded chaos. Practically all the shore Flotillas engaged in this duty. On the heels of the dock patrols came the coastal lookout towers. Again a great demand for personnel went forth and men were rapidly processed. As fast as it could be arranged, regulars were relieved in the



towers and this detail was largely a function of Class (T). Flotillas had men doing day and night tricks on docks and in towers both, and operations officers did some fancy footwork getting all posts covered. Many men stood consecutive watches when something went wrong with relief and stood by for short notice calls to do extra duties.

With cessation of dock patrols, apprehensions as to what the men would do were soon dispelled. There were anchorage patrols, duties at the various stations, radio watches, assignments to the Radar school at Atlantic City and other details. And all the time there was instruction, training, and education for those who sought to improve their knowledge of navigation, seamanship, signalling, small-boat handling and other subjects that would be of personal benefit and that would better qualify them for assigned duties. Noteworthy is the fact that men assigned to station duties have the opportunity to participate in regular activities of the stations. These include surf-boat drill, Lyle gun operation and familiarization with equipment employed by life boat stations. And, without too much facetiousness, the routine of chow has

added to the girth and general avoirdupois of a not inconsiderable group!

Space prohibits a detailed description of the activities of each of the Shore Flotillas involved, but the above will serve to point out the variety of tasks performed. It was to the operations officers that a lion's share of the work accrued. Lieutenant (T) Attmore is assisted in shore operations work by A. J. Sutton in the Southern New Jersey Division and Harvey Keough in the Northern. But the brunt of detailed organizing and assigning fell on those men who saw that all duty assignments were carried out in accord with regulations and that all men were instructed and qualified to discharge their duties properly.

One of the trite phrases that has been considerably overworked is that "the war isn't over yet." So long as there is a belligerent Nazi and an unsubdued Jap, men of the shore Flotillas will recognize that their vigilance is a mandate. They have demonstrated and are demonstrating right now that when victory comes, they'll be on the job. Let that stand as a pledge to the Coast Guard, to the country, and to every man, woman, and child who believes in America.



FLOTILLA 27, SALEM — Two candles gleamed brilliantly on our birthday cake, which occupied the center of interest on the festive deck, on 27 February. Pleasant shadows of retro-

spect were cast upon the group who has helped Salem 27 to maintain an enviable record in its short history.

Amidst the munching of delicacies, aromatic whiffs of Java, the somewhat harmonious bursts of song, the "pfsst" of released bottle caps and the sewing-circle chatter of scuttlebutt, it was recalled how "27" served to date.

Many of our charter members participated in the first emergency Auxiliary "owner" boat patrol of the historic Delaware. Following that, duties were performed in regular patrol with Coast Guard craft, radio and dock watches at Delaware City, guard duties around the clock at Gloucester, various emergency assignments and the fog horn tour at Ft. Mott.

One of our valuable entries in the log is the letter from Captain E. A. Coffin, dated 26 February 1943, to our first commander, Frank Hine. Present commander Doyle read the "charter" in further commemoration of the event.

Lieut. (T) Wm. B. Griscom paid, us another welcome visit. His sincere interest in the service is appreciated. Lieut. (j.g.) (T) Lyle W. Holmes accompanied Mr. Griscom and told interesting sidelights on Auxiliary personnel work.

CBM (T) George Boehner and his very cooperative staff of assistants are conducting regular classes of instruction. The fund of knowledge is drawing interest.

CBM (T) L. C. Newkirk and his naval aide, Ed Bruder, BM 2/c (T), are advising the boys in blue how to drill on an icy (waxed) floor without getting their sterns wet or cracking their bows against the bulkheads.

CBM (T) Francis North, until recently one of the skippers on the CG64305, and one of our most valuable mates, has stowed his Reservist uniform in the home cedar chest and is now wearing proudly, the blues of an apprentice seaman while in training at Bainbridge.

One of 27's "motor macs", I. R. McFarland, also an old hitcher in the Navy, has knocked the crow from its perch on Mac's sleeve. Lieut. Commander McFarland, gold stripes and all, looks snappy in that Merchant Marine regalia. Maybe that old crow will see stars some day. Who knows, anything can happen. Congrats!

Despite the restrictions governing the recruiting of new members, several future Reservists are visiting the weekly Flotilla musters:

A platoon of Salem's stalwarts paraded at a recent Red Cross rally held at Clayton.

Spring is almost here and many of our members have fancy thoughts . . . of making a nest in which to repose the idea eggs that (we hope) will eventually result in the securing of our own permanent berth for the good ship "27". The twigs and such are being selected with infinite care. Members are requested to cast now their lines of thought about the anchorage.

Carry on! — remember Iwo Jima is not a jiving record, it is a sacred record of dying.

—Horace H. Madden, Publicity Officer.

FLOTILLA 23, DREDGE HARBOR — Flotilla 23 is once again enthusiastic due to re-assignment to its first love, "River Patrol", after a lay-off because of the ice on the River. Operations Officer, Mr. Brownell, injected a new spark by reading the boat patrol crews once again at the last meeting. Even more interest was shown when it was made known that a different boat, the 43007, was to do duty along with the men of Flotilla 23. This detail was warmly received. The accommodations are finer

and more comfortable for a six-man crew. This will enable us to give some of our new members the boating experience they are keen to receive. Thursday, 22 February, 1945, looked in on the first inter-Flotilla pistol shoot. Flotilla 31 met our Flotilla at the Customs House Range in Philadelphia, and although we were defeated, much spirit was shown. With additional practice, our team will be in a better position to challenge other teams. This type of a program adds much to the interest in Flotilla activities and it is recommended that others try to do the same. Bill Pyle, Publicity Officer for our Flotilla, is now on sick leave and the members wish him a speedy recovery. For me, that goes double.

—Frank P. Glenn, Secretary.



FLOTILLA 31, OCEAN CITY

Where do you work, John? So far, no Auk from this Flotilla has been detailed to the Lackawanna R.R., but the spread of duties for 31 men is greater

than the average member realizes. In addition to various staff assignments and administrative jobs, our group has crews detailed as follows:

- 1 — Coast Guard Base, Essington
- 2 — Upper Delaware River Anchorage Patrol
- 3 — Lower Delaware River Anchorage Patrol
- 4 — Radio Watch — 3rd and Spruce, Philadelphia
- 5 — Coastal Lookout Tower, Ocean City

6 — Radar School, Atlantic City
Ensign (T) Gifford, you need not be reminded, heads the operations staff but commends the assistance of Bos'n Clayton, Cox. Ray Kline and Cox. Paul Ake.

At the 13 February meeting in Philadelphia, Director. Brown, commodore Hine, Division captain Huston and Mr. La Sor were all guests. A number

of interesting topics were discussed by these officers. The commodore presented 600 hour duty awards to McLees, Wilkinson, Jennings, Jeffries, Heist, Davis, Clark, Anderson, Merritt, Morford, and commander Van. Movies and refreshments followed the session.

The Ocean City contingent enjoyed a social gathering following the meeting and instruction period on 2 March.

A proposal has been advanced to launch a Flotilla publication. What do you think about it, mates? Tell the boss if you have any ideas along this line. Some of the other outfits put out monthly sheets to keep all members informed of what gives.

Instruction work at Ocean City continues to progress. Bob Morford has a likely-looking crop of Navigators, Clyde Ellis is signal expert, and Randy Fogg in the motor mac department is now being called "Professor."

—E. L. Johnstone, Publicity Officer.



FLOTILLA 26, TRENTON

The outstanding recent social event took place at the Trenton Yacht Club on 26 January, 1945. The men, their wives, sweethearts, and guests turned out to

enjoy a swell evening, dancing to the swing of George Jesko's string orchestra. Among those present were commander and Mrs. Wyckoff, vice commander and Mrs. Feaster and — the list is too long to mention — but all the boys assigned to 64305 please note that "Chappy" Chapman, our regular CMoMM, was a guest of the Flotilla and nearly won a turkey — or was it a sea gull? A fine time was had by all, including the spare women.

Congratulations to J. C. Aker and Ed Pickering, who received their Navigator's certificates.

R. F. Brenner, V. N. Lincoln, G. K. Martin, J. W. Morgan, C. A. Niece, C. A. Rebman, J. Stolz and G. Steiner deserve our good wishes on entering the Class (T) Reserve. With these new recruits, we expect to add up our patrol hours and take on more duties. We still have an enviable record of patrol performance coming within a few points of 100%. Van Meter, our operations officer, has a way with the boys. He gets them out.

PUBLICITY OFFICERS:

Deadline for copy for the April issue of TOPSIDE is Wednesday, 4 April. Make a note on your calendar right now, lest you forget.

Our new assignment to help the VPSF has resulted in a group of our boys volunteering for this duty. Flotilla 26 takes on all the jobs as they come along and the men should be praised for their co-operation.

On 8 February, 1945, a meeting was held in conjunction with the Engineers' Club of Trenton. "The Landing of Troops on the Pacific Islands" was the subject of the movie and lecture given by the U. S. Navy. It was entertaining and instructive.

Classes are going along in great shape, for the future Navigators expect to hit the mark on their first try. Classes in Blinker, Semaphore, First Aid, and Navigation are in session at each meeting.

—Barnett B. Rochestie, Publicity Officer.



FLOTILLA 25, FARRAGUT

All the admiration expressed about Ensign Mina Brown, USCGR (W), in our writeup for the last issue of this magazine, based on the first visit of the

pretty Spar Officer to our Flotilla meeting, went for naught as, since through a misunderstanding of the deadline date, it was too late for publication. However, the editor of TOPSIDE, apparently believing in the saying, "One picture is worth a thousand words", placed a picture of Miss Brown, Lieut. (T) F. Travis Cox, and

Lieut. (j.g.) (T) C. Frazier Hadley, in the space allotted to this Flotilla.

That beautiful, new, Flotilla flag which graces the forward end of the quarter deck at all meetings was designed by Operations Officer, Ensign (T) Charles H. Sprowles. Mr. Sprowles submitted the design for the flag in a contest which the Flotilla conducted, and he was awarded the first prize of ten dollars. He promptly donated the prize money to the fund for the purchase of the flag by the Farragut Foundation.

Our Annual Spring Dance will be conducted in the near future. We predict it will be another social success, as the dance will undoubtedly be held at the Walt Whitman Hotel in Camden and the music will be good enough to satisfy all who appreciate quality. More details about this affair will be given later.

Genial George H. Danielson, SK 2/c, now has two assistants to aid him in the important job of keeping records of time devoted to all activities by each member. Both assistants happen to be good at tying knots—Dr. William Herman, Chaplain, ties the "until death do us part" kind and Dr. Eugene W. Roberts, Dentist, ties them with lines and hawsers when instructing the class in Knots and Splices each Monday night.

Bill Yingst and Charlie Carter recently went on a trip to field test the Central Mobile Transmitter-Receiver unit with its Walkie-Talkies, under the supervision of Lieut. Hartnett, USCGR.

READING C. G. MAIL IS ACTIVE DUTY



WE'VE SEEN THE LAST OF THIS — WE HOPE!

This specially-built U. S. Coast Guard ice-breaker in the Delaware River, off Trenton, manned by Auxiliaries, is breaking up ice two feet thick, in response to an appeal by the Governor of New Jersey for aid to avert a threatened flood.

The test lasted three days and three nights.

Many men who have been assigned to a new duty with the Port Security Force are enjoying the work and find it to be more interesting than they had anticipated.

All hands are glad to be afloat again on the larger "cruiser" which is operated on nightly patrol duty exclusively by Auxiliarists from our Flotilla.

The awarding of many ratings recently reminds us of the motto, "Stick to your task though the pace seems slow, you may succeed with one more blow!"

—John A. Bauer, Publicity Officer.
(J. J. McCormack, Assisting)

FLOTILLA 16, TOMS RIVER —

The boys are brushing up their blues and shining their shoes for a bang-up Ladies' Night, to be held early next month.

A ten-man committee was chosen two weeks ago by our Skipper, Ensign (T) Don Applegate, through the unique method of having the Flotilla's Sky Pilot, the Rev. Ansley G. VanDyke, call out at random ten numbers between 1 and 100, while Les Reynolds checked the numbers on the roll.

George Eitel won the raffle by being the first number called and was immediately made chairman of the committee. Others chosen were Melvin Worth, E. F. Conover, Bill Borneman, Frederic Weber, Charley Sansome, Emil Then, Vernon Hagaman, John Ebere, and Lou Hirsch. Chairman George says some fine entertainment is being planned, so the affair ought to be a success.

An even dozen Flotilla 16 Class (T's) were awarded their 600-hour dog tags during February, and we understand some of the boys are already, or will be within a few weeks, eligible for the 1,200-hour award. Our congratulations go to CBM Bill Barkalow, CBM A. S. Farenwald, CBM Charles Kiefer, BM 2/c Froriep, BM 2/c Rankin, Coxswain Cox, Earl Brownell, Bob Conti, Herb Trenery, Chief Bob Snyder, Vernon Hagaman and Chief Joe Finley, our Flotilla "ops" officer.

Carlton Elwell faced review two weeks ago and received congratulations from the Skipper for promotion from Coxswain to BM 2/c.

Lieut. Comdr. (T) A. K. Brouwer, vice commodore for the Fourth Naval District, and former Flotilla commander, made an official inspection with Ensign (T) Applegate, complimented the boys on their showing, and offered the apologies of the division captain who could not make it. Commander Brouwer presented the 600-hour tags to Barkalow, Farenwald, Kiefer, Froriep, Rankin and

Cox. He urged men of the Flotilla to qualify for ratings, pointing out that there are plenty of vacancies in the rates above Coxswain. He laid special stress on the gunnery program, which Chief Barkalow started up again, 7 March, on the Admiral Farragut Academy range.

Eugene Couvert, Pleasant Plains, a retired Coast Guard veteran with 29 years service behind him, spoke to the men one night, relating high tales of his experiences with the life-boat service in the old days.



Courtesy of Radio-Craft Magazine

THE ORIGINAL WALKIE-TALKIE

Lieut. (j.g.) W. E. Sturm, known to every Flotilla for his fine work and his interesting history of the Coast Guard, paid us a visit during the month and gave a splendid account of Coast Guard history and the part the Service is playing in the current struggle.

A film on the Battle of Britain held the men spellbound one night after the regular Flotilla meeting, and while other programs during the month were not movies, they were just as interesting, Chief Farenwald giving us a lecture on rudiments of navigation, and Chief Snyder speaking on small-boat handling.

With his first effort behind him, your new public relations officer signs off for the month.

—Richard T. Hopper, Publicity Officer.

FLOTILLA 41, WILMINGTON — This Flotilla has had a busy month. Classes in Gunnery, Signalling, Motor Mac, and Advanced Piloting have all been going full tilt. Quite a few of the fellows are slated to take exams for ratings.

At our regular February monthly meeting, Lieut. Commander J. J. Nolan, USCGR, gave a very interesting talk about his experiences abroad. I'm sure all who attended the meeting that night will not forget the method the Commander used in finding his way around

in the black-out while in London. Seems like an excellent system. The movies shown through the courtesy of the Red Cross were very, very good. Our thanks to them.

Sorry to see Lieut. E. C. Huber leave the Edgemoor Base. Our relations were very pleasant. Best wishes go with him on his new assignment.

The Flotilla is now back to its old schedule of weekly meetings held every Thursday night at 1945 in the Delaware State Armory. These were interrupted, for awhile, when Motor Mac and Piloting Classes were held elsewhere. Those who do not attend the meetings are missing something. Make it a point to attend regularly even though you are not taking one of the special courses. You will find plenty to interest you. And be sure you don't miss the Monthly Meetings for an interesting evening. The committee is on its toes and open for all suggestions.

SCUTTLEBUTT: Heard G. H. Sherwood, S 1/c, has had a stay in the hospital. Too bad. Hope you will be back with the gang soon.

Howell Eskridge, SK 1/c, is on a business trip to California and will spend a few weeks there. Pleasant voyage. We miss you at the A. P. Course.

Through the kindness of E. I. duPont DeNemours & Company, garages have been erected at the Edgemoor Base, for the use of members of the Reserve, who travel to the Base by automobile, and park their cars while on duty. This kindness is appreciated by all.

The Wilmington Power Squadron will hold their Annual Quiz on 13 March. They have invited all the members of the Wilmington Auxiliary who are interested, to attend. All you Pilots, front and center.

—James F. McCloskey, Publicity Officer.



FLOTILLA 51, READING — A record total of 20,831 hours of duty were contributed to the Coast Guard by Class (T) members during 1944, according to records compiled by Ensign (T) Philip Ziegler, commander. He made the announcement at a meeting held in the Reading Central Y. M. C. A. A number of Reservists are in line to receive identification bracelets for performing 600 or more hours of work in river patrol, dock watch, radio detail, hurricane duty, gunnery duty, boat maintenance, etc. That arrangements are being rapidly formulated for the ladies' night to be held at the Mountain Springs Association on Fri-

day night 2 March, was reported by David J. Hill, chairman of the committee in charge. Coast Guard clothing was issued by John R. Lamson, Storekeeper, who made a trip to Philadelphia for articles needed by the men. Frank E. Markley, chief gunnery instructor, reported that his son, Frank Arnold Markley, and Thomas Haage, enlisted in the U. S. Coast Guard and are now receiving their basic training at the Manhattan Beach Training Station, Sheepshead Bay, N. Y. Following the business session, Markley, assisted by Richard Kemp and Samuel Rothermel, conducted gunnery practice in the Y. M. C. A. basement range. Kemp and Rothermel are striking for gunners' mate ratings. In the meeting room, signal practice was conducted by Frank Satterthwaite and navigators' lessons were given by George L. Witman.

—Matthew P. Romanski,
Publicity Officer.

FLOTILLA 32, STONE HARBOR

—The sympathy of the whole Flotilla goes out to S 1/c and Mrs. Jesse Ludlam in the loss of their son, Pfc. Stephen C. Ludlam, killed in action in the European theater. In the service a little over a year, he had served in Italy and France, was previously wounded in action, and held the Purple Heart, combat infantryman's badge, good conduct, and sharpshooter medals.

With the 1945 boating season coming up, Philadelphia members of Flotilla 32 should brush up on Signaling, Seamanship, and Small-Boat Handling by attending the regular meetings at the Base, at 1011 Chestnut Street.

Congrats to G. Robert Chew, Roy Wingate and Ed McVaugh on their recent advancements. After several of Roy's full-course dinners we are wondering if his new rating shouldn't have been Chief Cook instead of GM 2/c.

Bos'n (T) Alexander (Pete) Bowers, one of 32's oldest members, and who has served on off-shore patrols, dock watches, and as one of the skippers of the 2901, hasn't missed any duty on Thursdays. Naturally this kept him away from meetings for almost a year. He finally showed up the other night when his ice-breaker was ice-bound. After listening to Pete spin yarns of his interesting experiences, members of 32 have decided he is a "natural" for a recruiting officer's post.

Bos'n (T) Dick Russell, who heads the MoMM educational program from the staff office, Philadelphia, at the 23 February meeting at the Avalon Fire Hall, outlined the course to be given there each Friday night. He even guaranteed that any member who took the

course and passed the final trouble-shooting exam would be able to go home and rebuild his wife's sewing machine or washer. Over twenty-five members were present in addition to the following Philadelphia members: Chief MoMM Lou Zimmerman, CBM Charles (Chuck) Held, and MoMM 2/c Webb Boyer, instructors in the course; Bro. Secretary, Y 2/c Ed Larkins; Bos'n (T) Ed Pike, who conducted the meeting; and Hon. Spy, Chief Roth, who attended the class to find out why the 600-W he uses in the crankcase of the "Marydoll" insists on running out the rear main bearing. Chief Held's first lecture was on the 4-cycle engine.

O. O. Carl Lovejoy says that now he has heard everything. Awakened by the phone in the wee hours of the morning recently, one of his men reported that he was standing his watch in the tower but that his wife was sick and the O. O. would have to find someone to feed his six-months-old baby. Carl thinks that "Semper Paratus" should be modified. Anyway, the baby was fed on schedule.

—Bill Clark, Publicity Officer.



(Deadline Day). The company came and the Flotilla turned out with a very respectable attendance to greet them.

Things we never knew till now — Lieut. C. E. Hargis, commanding officer of the C.G. Group of Wildwood, took the wind out of our sails when he said we are not the first men to do part-time watch-duty along the coast without benefit of compensation. Then he supplied a gentle breeze by comparing us with the original auxiliaries, our forefathers, who did the trick back before 1790.

Robert L. Twilley, BM 1/c, commanding officer at Stone Harbor Lifeboat Station and our well-liked boss, gave us an earful of the mental and physical requirements of watch tower duty, which were considerably greater than we had imagined up to now.

Howard N. Howell, BM 1/c, recently returned from several months of active duty, declared that because we Temporary Reservists are doing such a fine job he was able to see much of the world for free. And he was glad we

gave him the opportunity. E. L. Johnstone, staff writer of TOPSIDE, presented one of his favorite anecdotes with dialect and gesticulations.

All hail our new junior commander. Heber Loveland has been chosen to fill the post vacated by Harry Rieck, Jr., when the latter accepted a full-time job with the Navy. Heber has adjusted the harness to his broad shoulders and is already placing a severe strain on the traces. And just to show what happens to fellows who leave the USCGR (T) for the regular service, Harry has spent most of his time at Bainbridge in sick bay with scarlet fever.

Don Sheard, who recently earned the rating of Cox, had a new rating conferred upon him last night. The new designation is Pa-Pa 1/c. The new arrival is potential Spar material. Congratulations Cox and Mrs. Sheard.

Al Mundle, Thirty-Four's high man in hours of service, will not soon forget two facts he learned in the Reserve (T)—never to step on an open hatch in the dark, and why they put those expansive collars on CG jumpers. It happened one night at Avalon tower. Al stepped on what he thought was the hatch cover and while he was making his unscheduled descent, Walt Towles just managed to grasp the corner of Mundle's collar, so instead of breaking all two-hundred odd bones, Al only parted with a few square feet of epidermis.

Charley Newton, welfare officer, is not only looking after our welfare, but also our stomachs. Could it be that those weekly delicious luncheons he serves have caused an upward trend in our attendance? Or it may be the presence of attractive Jean Arnes, former Millville High drum majorette, who twirls the baton at our drill sessions, or possibly the awarding of deck prizes by Drillmaster Scott Calkins.

—C. M. Scull, Publicity Officer.

FLOTILLA 24, DELAWARE RIVER — There has been a lot of activity in Flotilla 24 during the first two months of 1945, with new men coming into the Auxiliary, others being sworn into the Reserve (T) to be uniformed for those ever-increasing duties, the advancement of men who had recently passed rating exams, and, for good measure, the election of new officers.

We all regret the resignation of our commander, J. Kirby Tompkins, and he sure hated the idea, too, but when a couple of doctors ganged up on him, he realized that it was either cut his activities OR ELSE.

The problem of selecting a new commander was quickly settled by unani-

mous vote, electing our vice commander, Bos'n (T) Frank H. Riepen. At the same time, junior commander, CBM Ross MacDonald was moved up to vice commander and the junior post filled by CBM John C. Larkin, a familiar figure to all who have attended the Training Base at 1011 Chestnut Street. Lieut. J. W. Brown made the whole thing official on 5 February, when he administered the oath to our new commander, whose first duty was to swear in the junior and vice commanders. We were honored on this occasion by the presence of Lieut. (T) Wm. B. Griscom and Lieut. (j.g.) (T) W. Lyle Holmes, Jr.

And speaking of occasions, our Second Annual Banquet, held 3 March at the Sylvania Hotel, was one that we will remember for quite a while. A well-prepared turkey dinner with all the fixin's was accompanied by the orchestra's soft dinner music. The Honored Guests portrayed quite an assortment of "Gold Braid" and the speakers were excellent (they've learned to keep 'em short). But the highlight of the evening was the presentation of a ring to our past commander, Kirby Tompkins, from the Flotilla, as a token of appreciation for the splendid job he had done as commander. The ovation that followed left no doubt as to where Kirby stands in the hearts of his fellow-men. Then, to complete the doings of the "Honor Section", Lieut. J. W. Brown bestowed the rank of Ensign (T) upon our new commander.

Everyone present participated in the awarding of sixteen door prizes which were well distributed among the men, their wives, and sweethearts. The floor show that followed was worthy of merit and there was plenty of enjoyment in the dancing that continued til midnight.

For all the work involved in planning the ultimate success of such a party, we are deeply indebted to Chief C. W. Sanney and his hard-working committee. Our hats are off to them. A vote of thanks too, to the men of Flotilla 21, who so willingly stood watch in place of our men, who were scheduled for duty Saturday night.

—Edward P. Willard, Publicity Officer.



FLOTILLA 13, SEASIDE PARK—Commander Burdge wishes to commend the members who so faithfully performed their duty in the Forked River and Island Beach Towers during the trying,

winter months. Many of the men drove long distances on dangerous, icy highways to do their tricks. Some experienced considerable difficulties reaching

their stations during the heavy snowstorms, but in spite of hazardous driving conditions, they reported for duty on time.

It isn't easy to start out at all hours of the day and night to drive 30, 40, or more miles in sub-zero weather, braving snow drifts and slippery roads, but the record of service was excellent and very few failed in the performance of their duty. The winter of 1944-45 will be recorded as severe, which only serves to accentuate the high degree of responsibility which the members of Flotilla 13 take in the service of the U. S. Coast Guard Reserve.

The attendance at the gunnery school is increasing and Theodore Gabriel is giving able instruction. Most of us old-timers thought we knew all there was to know about pistols and small firearms, but after attending the gunnery school at the Admiral Farragut Academy, we obtained a greater understanding of the use and care of rifles and revolvers, which should increase our respect and skill in handling all types of guns. All members are urged to attend these classes. Your record will not be complete unless you have obtained the credits given to those who attend these instructions.

—Leslie Broomfield, Publicity Officer.

FLOTILLA 33, WILDWOOD — Flotilla 33 at Wildwood-By-The-Sea has recently changed its meeting place to the North Wildwood Fire House. Coincidental with the change in meeting place was a change in the meeting nights to the second and fourth Friday of each month at 2000.

The change was made to give the members a better opportunity to enjoy some social activities in addition to edu-

cational and routine business that is usually conducted.

At present, six members of 33 are taking the instruction course for Motormacs in Philadelphia every Wednesday. Those travelling from the beach are George Krogman, John J. Kay, Jr., Elmer Higgins, George Southwick, and Russell Coombs. Coombs, incidentally, won the attendance prize at the meeting held 23 February.

Nick Silvadio, who was recently appointed captain of the bowling team, has been holding practice sessions at a local bowling alley and has some fine prospects in tow. Apparently, the team wants to get in tiptop shape before challenging any of the teams from the surrounding Flotillas.

Citations which consisted of a certificate and a wrist tag for completing 600 hours of duty were presented to Joseph Dunlap, BM 1/c; J. Albert Harris, CBM; Arthur Sutton, Bos'n; and commander Russell Higgins.

Joseph Thomas, gunnery officer for Flotilla 33, was presented with a certificate for completing the entire gunnery course.

Thomas is now arranging a new gunnery schedule with the Flotilla to use the range now located in Wildwood over the Hollybeach Fire House. A series of instruction and drill courses will be worked out and each member of 33 is expected to do his bit and follow through the entire course as scheduled.

The past few days, with the bright sunshine and the pleasant spring warmth in the air, have prompted quite a few of the Flotilla to take the covers off their boats and to start looking them over so as to get a good start for the summer season.

—Albert S. Bailie, Publicity Officer.



PRIDE OF FLOTILLA 24

The CG #44001, an Auxiliary Patrol Boat out of Pier 181, Delaware River, is the pride of Flotilla 24 and is maintained by the Flotilla's Temporary Reservists.



FLOTILLA 18, LITTLE EGG HARBOR — It looks like a busy summer for this Flotilla if Ensign (T) Sid Blake, Operations Officer, has his way — and he usually does. Now

that there are berths available in Port Security work, it seems that there is no excuse for any man not putting in his twelve hours, regardless of what his business obligations may be. The few men in 18 who are not working regularly will soon find themselves on duty again. Meanwhile, the regular guys continue to man two towers on Long Beach Island and seven boatmen are active on the Anchorage Patrol. Earl Eddy, who had advanced to the rate of BM 1/c the hard way, voluntarily demoted himself to S 1/c in order to work on the Anchorage Patrol. Nice going, Eddy. At a recent meeting of the Flotilla, we were honored to have as our guest, Ensign Mina Brown, USCGR (W), who so charmed the members with her wit and personality that she was elected an honorary member of the Flotilla. There is some question as to whether Miss Brown or the Flotilla was most honored. QUICKIES: "Junior" Potter is worried about being court-martialed for stealing tools from the #38043. . . . Cherrill and White are said to have given a few lessons in Tower Watching to a four-striper. . . . Lieut. Redgrave was elected an honorary member of the Flotilla. . . . Citations and dog-tags have been awarded to a number of the men, and more will be passed out as soon as the District Office supply of paper and tin is replenished. NOTES FROM BEACH HAVEN, Jack Lamping, reporting: On 23 February, Bos'n (T) Wes Heilman, vice-commander, awarded 600-hour citations to more than a dozen of our faithful Tower Watchers. We were especially interested in viewing the two films on the Normandy Invasion and the recapture of Guam because one of the local regulars whom we all know, "Bill" Marshall, commanded one of the U. S. Coast Guard cutters that rescued 100 men in D-Day operations. "Bill" used to operate a party boat in these waters. Some difference, eh? Incidentally, the men who received citations and wrist tags were Walt Cranmer, Russ Clapp, Don Gibson, Earl Noonan, "Unk" Sprague, Johnnie Daniels, Grover Sullivan, and Harry Harris. Others will be awarded as won. Carry on.

—Russell K. Carter, Publicity Officer.



By NEWELL J. NESSEN, Cox. (T)

★ The activities at the Auxiliary Training Base got off to a fine start on 1 March with the first of a series of meetings to be held bi-monthly by the Port Security Force. Lieut. Commander Nolan, Lieut. (j.g.) (T) Gummers, CBM (T) Cooper, Cameron, Y 2/c, and twenty-one other men were present.

On Sunday, 4 March, the first Navigators' examinations were held at the Training Base for members of the class who have been attending regularly on Wednesday evenings since last October. Under the direction of Lieut. (j.g.) (T) A. M. LaSor, forty-eight men took this examination. The successful candidates will be notified through their Flotilla Educational Officer as soon as possible.

In an effort to carry to distant Flotillas the training program being conducted by the Educational Committee at the Training Base, a trailer has been purchased upon which has been mounted a Koehler 1500-watt 110-volt motor generator set, kindly loaned to us for that purpose by the Pennsylvania Railroad.

This mobile unit will go into service Friday, 9 March, 1945, at the meeting of Flotilla 32 at Avalon. At that point, a new motormac course was started on Friday, 2 March, 1945, attended by members of Flotillas 31, 32, and 33,

and the mobile unit will be of great assistance in supplementing the theoretical work with real practical work on a modern motor plant. Arrangements will be made to extend this type of teaching to other Flotillas.

To aid in the practical work on motors, a four-cylinder Plymouth motor has been obtained from the Pennsylvania Railroad for use at the Training Base. This motor will be set up so that the Motor Macs will be able to tear down and re-assemble this motor as part of their class work. More and more interest is being shown by the different Flotilla members in these Motor Mac courses.

Don't forget the open house meeting at the Training Base, 1011 Chestnut Street, on Friday evening, 23 March, which will be sponsored by Flotilla 21. We have been told that a very excellent "Surprise Program" is in store, so don't miss it. It is desired that a large attendance turn out for this meeting as this will be the last open house until October, next. Consideration is being given to holding the fall open house meetings on the first Friday of each month instead of the last Friday, as in the past. Definite announcement on this will be given through your Flotilla commander and through this column.



WHEN YOU TELEPHONE

To call the District Auxiliary Office, please be sure to ask for the correct extension number—do not ask for individuals. To reach—

Lieutenant J. W. Brown—ask for extension 248.

Ensign M. F. Brown—ask for extension 248.

Lieut. (j.g.) W. E. Sturm—ask for extension 249.

Chief Yeoman J. F. Dugan—ask for extension 249.

Yeoman Emmons—ask for extension 249.

Yeoman Van Osten—ask for extension 249.

Yeoman Stewart—ask for extension 249.

To reach any Class (T) Reserve officer on duty in the District Office, including members of Staff Committees, ask for extension 180.



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- ★ ★ ★ ★ TO FACILITATE OTHER OPERATIONS OF THE COAST GUARD.