

# *The Rapidfire*

USS NEWPORT NEWS



FRENCH ADMIRAL Andre Patou, Commander-in-Chief of the French Navy, Atlantic is briefed by Lt Jack Coates, Newport News assistant weapons officer, as Admiral Thomas H. Moorer, Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic, and Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet, (center) listens.

**April 1967**

# VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE by CAPT Lindsay C. McCarty

NEWPORT NEWS was just recently given the annual Administrative and Material Inspections. Final results are not in, but it is well known that the ship made an excellent to outstanding performance. I am pleased. I recognize that many days, weeks, and months were used to bring the ship up to its present administrative state; regarding the material readiness, it was an equal or greater effort. Long hours of work have been the watchword; it was not easy.

I believe there are many valuable benefits of an inspection. They do, of course, cause self-appraisal, and this in turn works to bring the ship up to the sought for standards. Then the inspecting ship, being completely objective, invariably finds faults that are overlooked by the inspected command: a ship too close to the problem often overlooks the obvious things. And these faults having been noted are later corrected. Also the inspecting ship learns a lot by closely examining another ship of similar type. Overall increased readiness results, and this is what we seek throughout the year.

Working for an inspection grade in itself is a poor practice. Truly the grade is secondary, and often not a true indicator of the capability of a ship. What is worthwhile working for is improvement; progress in all areas must be sought, and it is a never-ending effort. A ship that is striving to reach perfection will never reach that theoretical state, but it will be a better ship to live in and fight in. A ship that is not trying to improve will slip backward: there is no static state regarding ship readiness.

I think it of utmost importance that all NEWPORT NEWS men realize we have to keep going forward. Improvements in every Department are still needed. Our readiness must be increased. A great amount of hard work lies ahead for each of us, but I am confident that we can meet the challenge. NEWPORT NEWS has a way and a history of doing just that.



USS NEWPORT NEWS (CA-148) FLAGSHIP FOR COMMANDER SECOND FLEET  
Fleet Post Office, New York, New York 09501

COMMANDER SECOND FLEET  
COMMANDING OFFICER  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER  
EDITOR  
ADVISOR  
STAFF

PHOTOGRAPHERS

LITHOGRAPHERS

VICE ADMIRAL Bernard A. Clarey, USN  
CAPTAIN Lindsay C. McCarty, USN  
COMMANDER Robert T. Ruxton, Jr., USN  
LIEUTENANT John C. Frederick, USNR  
JO3 Jerry Bowles, USNR  
JO1 Frank Castellucci, USN  
SN David L. Block; SN Robert L. Mallory;  
SN Thomas J. Sprtel  
PH2 Tom Ryals; PH3 Harry Doyle; SN  
Richard Binner; SA Stanley Elwood; SA  
Charles Cassault  
LICS Adrian Human; LI3 Thomas Hendricks;  
SN Wayne Mueller; SN Darrell Marlett; SN  
Terry Roan; SN Clarence Fowler; SN Bob  
Enrick

THE RAPIDFIRE is published and printed monthly on board USS NEWPORT NEWS with non-appropriated funds and distributed free of charge to personnel of the USS NEWPORT NEWS in compliance with NAVEXOS P-35. All photographs appearing in this publication are official U.S. Navy photos, unless otherwise noted.

THE RAPIDFIRE is not an official Navy publication and its contents do not necessarily express the opinions of the Commanding Officer.

## Moral Side of the . . . NEWS

by Chaplain Walter "J" Schwartz, USN

The Twenty-third Psalm is frequently the first religious poem learned by a child. At the end of life, it is likely to be the most precious religious poem, and in the whole of a lifetime it does not grow stale.

And yet reading it in words translated from an American Indian tongue gives fresh warmth to the thoughts of the Hebrew psalmist:

"The Great Father above is a Shepherd Chief. I am his, and with him, I want not. He throws out to me a rope and the name of the rope is love, and he draws me to where the grass is green and the water not dangerous, and I eat and lie down satisfied.

Sometimes my heart is very weak and falls down, but he lifts it up again and draws me into a good road. His name is Wonderful.

Sometime, it may be very soon, it may be longer, it may be a long, long time, he will draw me into a place between the mountains. It is dark there, but I'll not draw back. I'll not be afraid, for

it is there between the mountains that the Shepherd Chief will meet me, and the hunger I have felt all through this life will be satisfied. Sometimes he makes the love rope into a whip, but afterwards he gives me a staff to lean on.

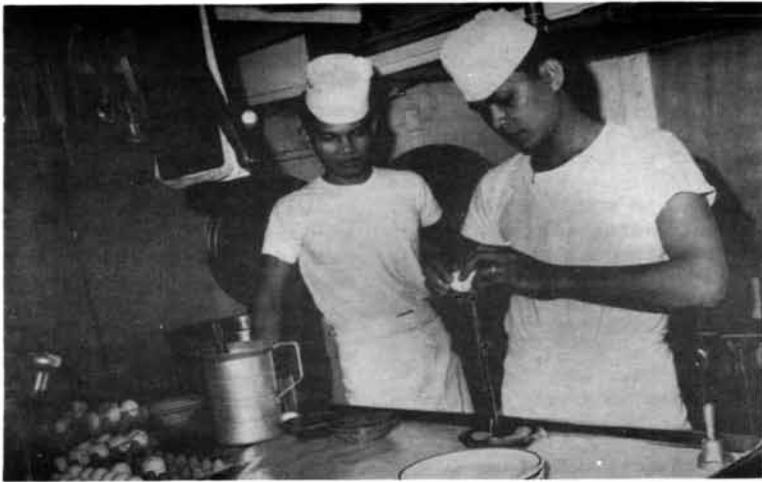
He spreads a table before me with all kinds of food. He puts his hand upon my head and all the tired is gone. My cup he fills till it runs over.

What I tell you is true, I lie not. These roads that are ahead will stay with me through this life, and afterward I will go to live in the Big Teepee and sit down with the Shepherd Chief forever."

Our father....Shepherd....Chief---by whatever name the Children of God speak to him, they speak to the same spirit of love. All of us receive from him the same direction, the same blessings, the same comfort. Our prayer should be that we would know each other better as children of the same God, as we sit about the same "spread table" or walk the decks of a Navy cruiser.



CHAPLAIN Walter "J" Schwartz and Captain George A. Wright, Fleet Chaplain of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet (robed), lead singing during Easter Sunrise Services aboard the Flagship.



SD3 Mario Macaraeg and SD3 Cesar Espindza prepare eggs for breakfast in the Officers' Pantry.



TN Nathaniel Mantaring takes Ensign W.H. Edwards' dinner order.

## DIVISION OF THE MONTH



### S-5 Division

The 28 men of S-5 Division are directed by Lieutenant Junior Grade DeLong, Chief Petty Officer Obtera, Stewardman First Class De Lumban and Stewardman First Class Santa Ana. Lieutenant Junior Grade DeLong in addition to serving as division officer, performs the functions of assistant supply officer, Wardroom mess caterer, mess treasurer, and assistant berthing officer.

All stewards are required to complete the equivalent of "A" school before reporting to their permanent duty station. Also, most S-5 petty officers and some stewardsmen are schooled in the culinary arts. Stewards have an outstanding record down through the years in the Navy. They serve in gun mounts and as stretcher bearers during General Quarters and their combat record is equal to any in the Navy.

The stewards start their 13-hour day with a 0500 reveille, and perform a variety of tasks during the course of a day. They handle the purchasing and preparation of all provisions for the Wardroom and maintain its financial records on a daily basis. All staterooms including that of the Commanding Officer plus much adjacent space must be maintained by the stewards, and this in itself is a demanding and time-requiring task.

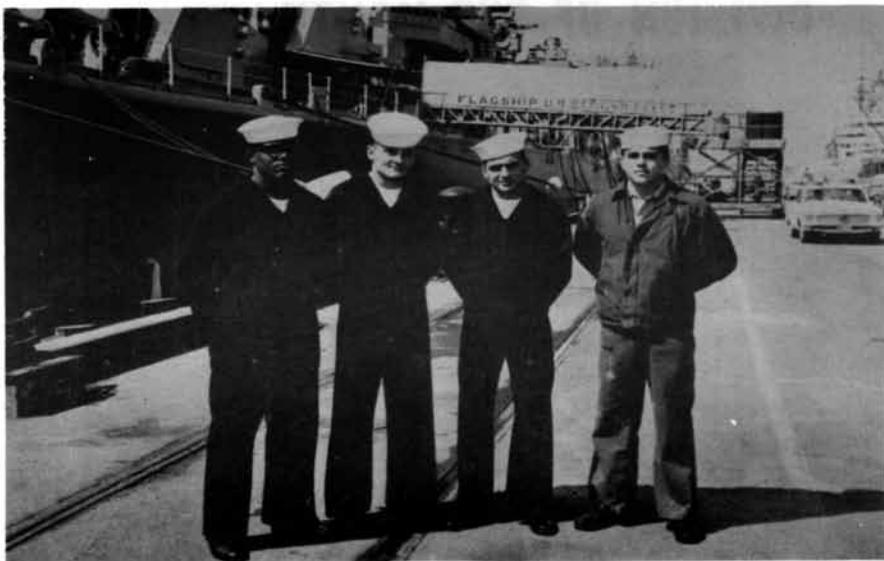
The stewards are also responsible for the showing of movies in the Wardroom, and make arrangements for all conferences there, including many Staff conferences. The stewards make all guest and visiting officers welcome and they often add their services to help in making preparations for the official receptions held aboard by the Second Fleet Commander. The stewards are short handed considering their work load, but they never complain.

This division has one of the most outstanding records of any division aboard Newport News. Among the best behaved sailors, they have fewer disciplinary cases than any other division, in fact, they are rarely seen before the Captain's Mast.

Many of the stewards are from the Philippine Islands, and are intensely proud of their fine heritage. In fact, many of these have received advanced education in their country before joining the U.S. Navy, and they usually speak three languages—Spanish, English, and their native Tagalog.

First and foremost, the men in this division are sailors in the United States Navy. They stand ready with their shipmates to continue to serve well in order to maintain the peace or to engage in combat should they be called upon to do so.

# Wrestling Team



FROM LEFT: SN John Jenkins, YN3 Jim Reed, DN Ernest McGuire, and SN Terry Beamer. Absent is SN Karl Weilbacher who is in Oklahoma City competing in the Inter-Service Tournament.

Newport News wrestlers made a fine showing, in spite of several handicaps, in the Navy East Coast Invitational Wrestling Tournament. The meet took place in Yorktown, Virginia on March 27th-29th and all Navy commands on the East Coast were eligible to enter individuals.

The Newport News matmen only had one weeks notice to prepare for the tourney and this, as any wrestler can tell you, is little time to get in wrestling shape. YN3 Jim Reed, who wrestled at 171 lbs., organized the team and set up a rigorous practice schedule. Fifteen men signed up to wrestle and worked out in earnest for the week prior to leaving for Yorktown. Newport News was involved in the annual Administrative Inspection and, unfortunately, it was impossible for all of the wrestlers to make the trip. Five men with the most experience were selected to represent Newport News and made the trip to Yorktown in the ship's Special Services vehicle.

Stiff competition awaited the Newsmen in Yorktown. Indeed, many commands entered teams that had worked out for many months previous to the tournament. Top Navy wrestlers from all over the East Coast included a number of former Naval Academy grapplers.

When the action on the mats had ended, Newport Newsmen had given a good account of themselves...SN Karl Weilbacher Jr. placed first at 191 lbs., SN John Jenkins took second in the heavyweight division and YN3 Reed copped fourth at 171 lbs. - - a weight above his regular wrestling weight. Weilbacher has been associated with the New York Athletic Club and has seen action in several AAU meets. He is currently working out in Yorktown and will leave April 3rd for the Inter-Service Tournament in Oklahoma City. He will be representing the entire Navy at 191 lbs., since the West Coast Navy team is not sending a man at 191.

# MOMENTS MEMORIES AND MEN



Thomas Green of Brooklyn was driving to work when he heard on the radio that NEWPORT NEWS was in New York. He decided that he would be late for the first time and stop off to see his old ship. After all, he hadn't seen her since he completed his tour of duty aboard her in Norfolk in 1954.

Green, now a guard at a hospital in Brooklyn, served as a Stewardsman aboard NEWPORT NEWS from 1952 to 1954. He hadn't seen the ship since his release from active duty although he had always intended to visit her. The New York

visit was his chance.

"She was a beautiful ship..still is," Green said. "I enjoyed my tour of duty aboard her very much."

While aboard in New York, he visited his former work space and had no trouble finding his old berthing compartment, although he conceded that things had "changed a great deal."

Green said if he could have stayed on NEWPORT NEWS he would have remained in the Navy.

"She's a great ship," he said, "a real beauty."





REAR ADMIRAL R.W. McNitt, Commander Cruiser-Destroyer Flotilla Four, (left), talks with Captain McCarty and Captain E.H. Farell, Commanding Officer of the USS NORTHHAMPTON (CC-1).

# Administrative

# Inspection



CAPTAIN McCarty greets Captain E.H. Farrell,  
Commanding Officer, USS NORTHHAMPTON (CC-1).



CAPTAIN McCarty accompanies  
the inspecting party.



During our recent trip to New York men of the Newport News had a chance to listen to a new rock'n'roll group from the big city.

The Fabulous Fakes, current Columbia recording artists and sponsored by the Hazel Bishop Company entertained on the ship's forecastle in a free performance for the men.

Songs of all types from slow ballads to the up-tempo of their own original sounds proved to the men of the Newport News that the group was going to make their evening most enjoyable.

The weather was more than on their side for the Saturday evening show that was emceed by, YN3 John King.

Sunday night proved to be a most successful show although the weather had turned to the cool side.

Sunday's performance was preceded by the receiving of an organ from the Hazel Bishop Company that was accepted for the ship by, SN Thomas Sprtel who also emceed the show that night.

The six that make up the group were presented the ship's plaque at the conclusion Sunday night and a loud round of applause for their fine work at both appearances.

# The Fabulous Fakes





LT WONDOLOWSKI says goodbye to Vice Admiral Bernard A. Clarey, Commander SECOND Fleet as Captain McCarty and Commander Ruxton watch.



LT WONDOLOWSKI in 1944 when he was Gunner's Mate First Class Wondolowski.

## A Gunner's Farewell

When Lt Alexander Wondolowski crossed the quarterdeck of NEWPORT NEWS for the final time, on his retirement in March, with him went over twenty-five years of experience in Naval gunfire support.

Lt Wondolowski began his career as a seaman recruit at boot camp in Newport, R.I. in 1941. Following training, he was assigned to the ill-fated BRISTOL (DD 453) where he served until October 13, 1943—the day the ship was sunk by a German U Boat. Lt Wondolowski recalled that fifty lives were lost and that the ship sank in eight minutes. He was in the water about five hours before being rescued.

Mr. Wondolowski, then a gunner's mate second class, returned to the states for reassignment and further training. He went to the USS YMS 464 for 20 months and then followed a series of assignments aboard destroyer-type ships, during which time he became a Gunner's Mate Chief.

He got his first taste of shore duty at Bainbridge, Md. in 1952. Then, in 1955, he reported to the USS WISCONSIN (BB 64), the last active battleship, and he remained there until the ship was decommissioned in Bayonne, N.J. in 1958.

From 1958 to 1961, Mr. Wondolowski

was an assistant instructor in NROTC at Villanova University. It was here that his new career as an officer actually was launched. He was recommended for a commission and completed the LDO section of Officer Candidate School. He was commissioned LTJG in May of 1961.

His first commissioned assignment was Ordnance Gunner aboard USS BOSTON (CAG1) the world's first guided missile cruiser. He became main battery officer and assistant weapons officer in NEWPORT NEWS in November of 1965.

Mr. Wondolowski had several thoughts on the future of Naval gunfire before he left NEWPORT NEWS. Among these was the need for more formal schools to train Gunner's Mates and Firecontrolmen. He foresaw an active future for cruisers "at least for the next fifteen to twenty years."

He also had kind words for NEWPORT NEWS:

"I think she is an outstanding ship—the best-looking ship in the U.S. Navy. Her material readiness and preservation have improved tremendously in the past year."

And, he added:

"I'm proud to be able to say that I have served in NEWPORT NEWS."

## Reenlistments &



CHIEF YEOMAN James E. Rigg receives congratulations from Captain McCarty following his latest reenlistment on 21 March.

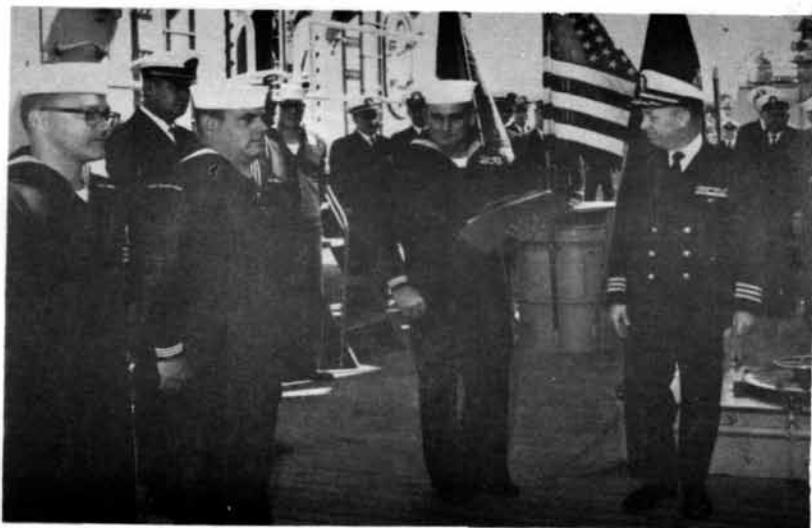


SECOND CLASS Radioman Robert S. Howard accepts his reenlistment oath from Captain McCarty on 3 March.

## Farewells



**MASTER CHIEF Electronics Technician Charles H. Allred is bid farewell from Newport News by Captain McCarty. Chief Allred transferred on 31 March to the Fleet Anti-Air Warfare Training Center at Dam Neck, Virginia.**



**BOATSWAIN'S MATE First Class Hollis E. Ingram departs Newport News on 4 April to enter the Fleet Reserve following a Naval career of 22 years active service.**



WORLD FAMOUS Times Square was a familiar sight to all Newport Newsmen during the ship's visit to New York.



NEWPORT NEWS line handlers get ready to tie the ship up at Pier 88 in New York City.



VICE ADMIRAL Bernard A. Clárey, Commander SECOND Fleet and Captain McCarty discuss last minute plans as the ship prepares to tie up in New York.

# New York FOR A Weekend Holiday

"Fun City" is what Mayor John Lindsay likes to call New York and after a weekend visit there in March, most Newport Newsmen would agree that he is right. From the Battery to Broadway; from Times Square to Tammany Hall, there's always something doing in America's doinigest city.

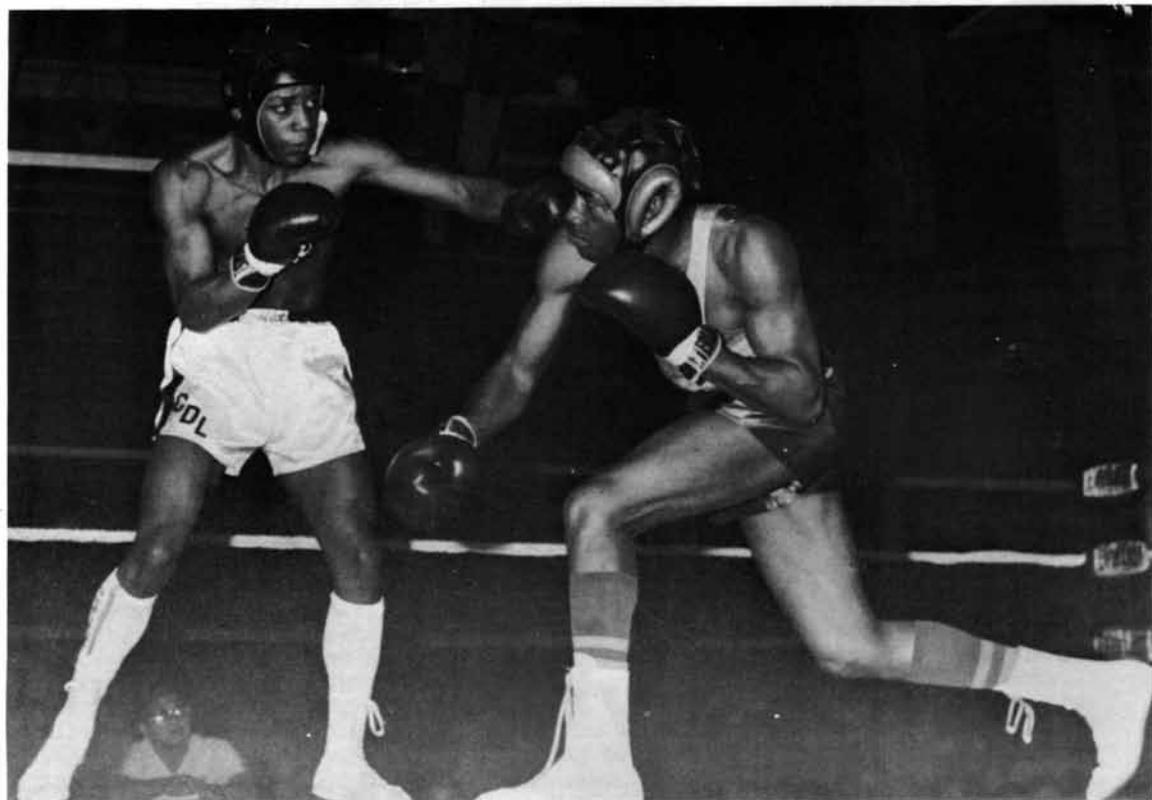
From the hustle and bustle of the city's millions on Friday, to the calm of Sunday afternoon, Newsmen toured the town and her many world famous sights.

The ship played host to several thousand New Yorkers on Saturday and Sunday, and, in turn, was entertained by a top New York popular singing group called the "Fabulous Fakes."

Leisurely sightseeing, pleasant shopping and fine dining---many found the city more enjoyable as time passed under their tired feet.

The USO and other servicemens' clubs provided free tickets to television and radio shows, sporting events, and local places of interest. Among the popular daily events on everyone's schedule were the leisurely walks in mid-town Manhattan, a speedy subway ride and ferry ride to the Statue of Liberty, a far-reaching view from atop the Empire State Building or the aw- and wondersome broadcasting tour at the RCA Building.

So it went, from the towering spire of the Empire State Building, the glistening modern United Nations buildings, the excitement and brilliance of Times Square, the city within a city that is Rockefeller Center, Radio City Music Hall, and to the magnificent Statue of Liberty that greeted our arrival---these are the things that Newsmen enjoyed and will remember about New York in their pictures and memories.



SN TALBERT ANDERSON of Fourth Division, (left) displays the left jab which led him to the All-Navy welterweight crown in finals held at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii in late March. Anderson's opponent was John Vaughns, representing the West Coast team, whom he defeated in a decision.



U.S.S. NEWPORT NEWS

CA-148

% F.P.O. NEW YORK, N.Y.

TO