

The Rapidfire

USS Newport News (CA-148)



USS SPRINGFIELD (CLG-7) tied up alongside USS NEWPORT NEWS (CA-148) before the transfer of Commander Second Fleet this month in Norfolk.

AUGUST 1967

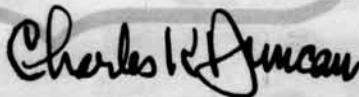
TO THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF USS NEWPORT NEWS:

By the time you read this my Staff and I will have completed our move to the new SECOND Fleet Flagship, USS Springfield, and you will be departing for a most important mission.

I share with you the pride you must feel in having your ship selected for this priority deployment. The great value to the Navy of USS NEWPORT NEWS, both because of its gunfire, and command and control capabilities, is evident. You are faced with a tremendous challenge and responsibility.

I have no doubt whatsoever that you will meet this challenge and continue to perform in the exemplary manner which I have witnessed and grown to rely on in the few months in which I was privileged to be aboard your fine ship.

All of us on SECOND Fleet Staff will be carefully following the reports of your activities and wishing you every success and smooth sailing.



Charles K. Duncan
Vice Admiral
Commander Second Fleet
Commander Striking Fleet Atlantic

AUGUST 1967

VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

by CAPT Lindsay C. McCarty, USN

This month of August has been a period of change for NEWPORT NEWS: perhaps no greater changes have taken place during the ship's 18-year history; certainly not in such a short time. It is all centered around our preparations for an extended absence from our homeport of Norfolk. And, as always, the heart of anything--yes, even any change-- is the people involved. While material considerations such as the loading of supplies and the operating conditions of our weapons system and propulsion plant are terribly important, it is the people who are planning and doing the work who are the most important. Indeed without good officers and crew interest, hard work, and team work, the material conditions fall far short of the mark.

We have lost many of our skilled and dedicated people to other ships and stations. I regret their departure. However, I am impressed with the quality of the new arrivals and I predict that the new team of NEWPORT NEWSmen will be an exceptionally fine one. Officers and petty officers with enthusiasm and ideas are needed, and I see many aboard now with these traits, as well as with the all-important professional know-how. I note also, and with much pleasure, the alert and willing young non-rated men who have just reported aboard. They are trainable, and with proper leadership from the outset, they will develop to be even more valuable and responsible citizens.

I do hope that this new NEWPORT NEWS team can achieve the habit of working with pride. This is my greatest concern. It seems that throughout our country we are seeing a high tide of mediocrity, with the half-done job being the standard procedure; indeed, responsibility too often is the thing to be avoided. Translated to our ship, mediocrity would mean not replacing all the bolts in a casing; it means not replacing a fire hose spanner wrench in its bulkhead bracket; it means not "dogging" securely tight a water-tight door, or leaving an electrical lead uncovered. Also it could be sloppy and indifferent work, while at the same time forgetting that more time is spent doing botched-up jobs over than ever would have been required to do them correctly from the outset.

NEWPORT NEWS is a proud ship and I believe it has a proud crew. It is essential, though, that we reemphasize at every echelon in the command that responsibility and thoroughness are the watchwords. The individual must seek to achieve that tangible feeling of personal pride in everything, indeed, in every task which he undertakes. With the great changes as noted this month and with our operational schedule, I can think of no better time to re-evaluate our status both personally and collectively in this regard. In fact, it is imperative to our state of readiness and I expect each NEWPORT NEWSman to do so.



Moral Side of the...NEWS

by Chaplain Walter "J" Schwartz, USN

It might surprise some readers to learn that America's first bathtub was built in Cincinnati in 1842. Constructed of mahogany and lined with sheet lead, it was exhibited at a Christmas party. The next day, the local newspaper denounced it as a "luxurious vanity." Doctors warned that the bathtub would prove a menace to health. The next year, in 1843, Philadelphia undertook by public ordinance to prohibit bathing between 1 November and 15 March. Two years later, Boston made bathing unlawful except when prescribed by a physician.

"Progress" is not always as slow as it was over a hundred years ago, but the facts above do indicate a truth we often overlook: it is only by persevering (trying again in the face of difficulties and obstacles) that any of us ever accomplish anything worthwhile. If we plan to achieve, we have to doggedly refuse to be discouraged by failure, hin-

drance, or opposition.

By steadfast pursuit of an undertaking, the most difficult of tasks can be performed successfully. When we are doing anything worthwhile, it is always too soon to give up. We never know when we are doing some work which requires repeated effort but what the next attempt will put us over the top. Most regrettable would it be should we stop just a single step short of the goal.

The secret of success is to keep on keeping on. When we try, fail, and give up, we can never hope to succeed. This is true in August; it will also be true in the weeks and months ahead of us.

We need to take heart from the experience of the six-year-old lad who came home from school one day with a note from his teacher which suggested that the boy be taken out of school because he "just could not learn." His name was Thomas A Edison.

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Deployment Preparations August 1967

The present in-port period is the scene of a concentrated bustling activity throughout the ship. The impending extended deployment has required an assessment of the capabilities of many aspects of shipboard operations and has set up firm deadlines to insure logistic, administrative, and operational readiness.

In any planned deployment, on any ship, the department which is, most involved in pre-sail preparations is the supply department.

Obviously we will be at sea for prolonged periods of time. This will drain our stores of supplies--but, will the losses put greater strain on us from day to day? Probably not. The storekeepers are taking on foodstuffs sufficient for 120 days instead of relying on our normal 90-day underway stores. A few more spaces for additional storage have been acquired from vacated Flag compartments. Refrigerated rooms below decks will allow us to keep food fresh between replenishments, which should occur about every thirty days.

S-1 and S-2 divisions are initiating programs to stabilize their workforces, especially in the messing area.

Improvements to the messdecks included the installation of a new ice cube machine and a soft ice cream machine which will feature six flavors of ice cream.

A sad note for many, "mid-rats" will be curtailed beginning September first except for those people standing mid-watches. However, the food served then will be augmented by hot soup and hot sandwiches.

In other areas of supply, the ship's store has taken aboard a large load of stores in anticipation of the crew's needs. Included are 500 cameras of all types, watches of all kinds, over 300 radios, 100 phonographs, 100 tape recorders including the three-inch size which are very handy for recording letters to send home to the family and friends. A complete stock of pre-recorded tapes and blank tapes to fit all machines will be available.

Over 17,000 Christmas cards are in stock (including 10,000 with pictures of Newport News) along with 4,000 greeting cards for all occasions.

More than 10,000 paperback books will be available and over 4,000 records.

Many foreign items will be available

through the ship's store in various ports of call, and an information pamphlet is available in the ship's store office.

The vending machines will be fully stocked with a four months supply of soft drinks, popcorn, etc., along with about 150,000 candy and snack items.

Surely, Supply's activities in preparation for deployment are vitally important; however, all other departments are also doing much work in this very important task.

For weeks many civilian engineers have been working to insure that our vital equipment is up to the high standards set by our Commanding Officer. Included is the modification of the fantail area to accommodate the helicopter to be stowed below decks. Stowage considerations for all types of ammunition and their care is an important aspect and is receiving much thought for the safety of the ship and her crew.

With the departing of many old crewmembers, many new faces are being added to the crew's company. With these new people, many of whom haven't been to sea, training must take place to prepare them for the voyage.





One very important part of any cruise is the mail service. It should be noted that very good service is expected. Information on sending and receiving mail will be available in the near future.

For the crew's evening enjoyment the ship's radio station will be playing records including many new selections and will have a host to entertain the crew.

An item new to Newport News will be the closed circuit television system. One feature of this system will be the showing of the evening movie over many of the televisions—thus enabling crew members to enjoy the entertainment under less crowded conditions.

The upcoming deployment will be a different type of cruise than ever before and we will be facing problems which we have never encountered. Whatever comes, the men of the Newport News will be ready and will continue to perform in the exemplary manner which is traditional with our ship.



LASH OUT 1967

"On July 31, waves of carrier-based aircraft swept over the Florida coastline and conducted air strikes against pre-determined targets."

If the above statement, without any further qualification, was released to the news media by the NATO high command, it would very likely cause considerable commotion and disbelief throughout the world. It would undoubtedly come as a very startling piece of news to the people who live along the Florida coastline.

Interestingly enough, the statement is in part, truthful. However, it should be pointed out that although the above-mentioned planes did, in fact, fly over their targets, their air strikes were of a simulated nature, being part of LASH OUT, a NATO exercise, which was conducted from July 26 to August 2 in the Western Atlantic.

LASH OUT, under the on-the-scene direction of Vice Admiral Charles K. Duncan, Commander Striking Fleet Atlantic, was designed to test and sharpen the operational readiness of NATO's Striking Fleet. Newport News, as Flagship for Admiral Duncan, played a vital command role in the exercise.

For operational purposes, the participating forces in LASH OUT were split into "teams". The "Blue" or "friendly forces" consisted of 33 Striking Fleet ships, including Newport News. They were supported by carrier and land-based aircraft from both the United States and Great Britain. The "enemy" or "Orange" forces were comprised of four surface raiders and four submarines, with support from land-based aircraft.

"Seminole", a friendly nation located in the Florida peninsula, suffered an insurrection and was invaded by hostile

forces. NATO's assistance was requested, and the "Blue" force Striking Fleet, after a rendezvous off the North Carolina coast, sped south to render emergency assistance to the besieged nation. After a series of airborne and underway operations, the enemy was vanquished, and peace and freedom returned to "Seminoles".

Throughout the exercise, the hostile "Orange" forces attempted to harass the operations of the "Blue" forces. As defensive measures the Striking Fleet conducted anti-air, anti-surface, and anti-submarine warfare maneuvers.

In addition to strike and defensive operations, LASH OUT gave the Striking Fleet the opportunity to enact other vital maneuvers, including underway replenishments and real communication operational drills.

The exercise served to enhance the already powerful operating strength and efficiency of NATO's Striking Fleet Atlantic.

A NATO EXERCISE



Division of the Month

"H" DIVISION

The "H" or Health division has progressed a long way since its origin in 1799. An act of Congress in that year provided: "A convenient place shall be set apart for the sick and hurt men, to which they are to be removed, and some of the crew shall be appointed to attend them." That portion of the ship was known as the Cockpit and was usually located in the forward part of the vessel, below the water line as a protection against shot and shell. The Cockpit was later re-named the Sick Berth and in following years became known as the Sick Bay.



HM2 Joe Perry and HN Terry Dean practice close heart massage and resuscitation in sick-bay.

In 1814, the early Hospital Corpsmen were referred to as "Loblolly" boys. It was, among many others, the duty of the "Loblolly" boys to go fore and aft the gun and berth decks and ring a small bell to give notice to "those slightly indisposed and with ulcers" to attend the surgeon at the mainmast. Before battle the "Loblolly" boy was to provide the Sick Berth with water, containers for amputated limbs, braziers of charcoal for heating the irons to sear the stumps caused by amputations and for heating tar with which to stop hemorrhage. He was also to provide buckets of sand for the deck to catch the blood from amputations and to prevent the surgeon from slipping. Sound gruesome and crude? Yes...but, our present methods of treatment may seem crude 300 years from now.



Not all of the H Division members are pictured due to their leave when photograph was taken.

The present day Hospital Corps came into existence as an organized unit on 17 June 1898. It was re-organized by an act of Congress, approved 29 August 1916 and the basic structure has remained virtually the same ever since.

Members of the corps, individually and collectively, have added a brilliant chapter to the history of the Navy. This can be recognized by the fact that there are less deaths among wounded personnel of the Navy and Marine Corps than any of the other services. Out of every 100 U.S. Navy and Marine Corps personnel wounded during World War II, 97 survived. Of 22 Medals of Honor awarded to enlisted Navy personnel during WW II and the Korean Conflict, 12 went to Hospital Corpsmen. They have distinguished themselves in every war.

Aboard NEWPORT NEWS, LT. Carmine T.

Calabrese, MC USNR, "H" division department head, is constantly seeking ways to improve treatment and patient care. "H" division is equipped as a small hospital, with modern equipment and expert techniques that keep most of the crew healthy and working. The doctor is assisted in the operation of "H" division by one Senior Chief Hospital Corpsman who acts as the Division Officer and takes care of administrative matters. There is one First Class Hospital Corpsman assigned to ensure that the routine is run smoothly and efficiently. Eleven other Corpsmen make the complement of "H" division.

Sick Bay is never closed. There are qualified personnel on board at all times to handle any situation that may arise. Aside from sick call and patient care, many hours are devoted to other

"H" Division



activities that must be carried out by the Medical Department. There are men assigned to order and maintain supplies. A health and sick call record must be kept up to date on each crew member. Shots and X-rays must be given. Sanitation must not be excluded from the daily routine, for it is much better to prevent disease than to treat it. Daily and weekly sanitation inspections are made throughout the ship to correct any condition that may prove harmful to the health of the crew.

Our Hospital Corpsmen of today must undergo 16 weeks of intensive training and study at a Hospital Corps School before working with the treatment of patients. Upon completion of school they may be assigned anywhere in the world. They can be found aboard ship or with



HM3 Richard Weber takes an X-ray of SA David Smith as a usual part of his daily routine.



HM3 Sonny Fredericks, performs minor surgery on the foot of a crewman

Fleet Marine Forces, or at Naval Hospitals. As the Hospital Corpsman progresses with his career he may apply for one of many specialized schools the Corps has to offer, such as; X-ray, laboratory, operating room techniques, etc.

Yes, the medical profession has come a long way since the "Loblolly" boy spread sand on the decks to soak up blood, and the members of the "H" division on board NEWPORT NEWS like to feel that they have kept abreast of all these changes and are fully qualified to handle any situation in a calm and efficient manner. Corpsmen are indeed proud to be a part of the Corps that keeps as many men at as many jobs for as many days as possible.

A salute to the men of "H" division on NEWPORT NEWS, our division of the month.

Enlistedmen's Wives' Club Announces Essay Winner

Winner of the Summer Essay Contest sponsored by the USS NEWPORT NEWS Enlistedmen's Wives' Club is Miss Debra Smith, daughter of SPCM and Mrs. John F. Smith. Debra is a seventh-grader at South Morison elementary school in Newport News.

In the picture at the right, Captain Lindsay C. McCarty presents the \$25 U.S. Savings Bond to Miss Smith as the First Prize award in the contest. Her essay, entitled "Americanism", is reproduced below on this page.



"Americanism"

I am glad to live and belong to a beautiful nation called the United States. This Nation allows us to talk about your own ideas and to belong to any church you pick, to work at any factory or building you desire, to travel to other cities, states or countries, and to repair and live where you want to live.

When we go to school, we are taught to read, write, and how to get along with others. We go to school because our government wants us to have a better education to get better jobs, and to have happier homes and families.

We are very lucky to live in such a beautiful place with freedom. In Russia, the people have little freedom. At the age of seven, the Russian children start school, but from then on their lives are controlled by the government without any questions.

If I were able to do something to help the poor people, I would share food, clothes, and help them to have homes to live in.

I think the people of the United States should be very proud to live in such a nation in which there are many things that men have done to make it beautiful. They have fixed and made places to camp, to play games, like golf and other sports.

I think the United States is a strong nation with armies and navies to fight for our freedom and rights.



Newport News Baseball Champs

The 1967 Softball Season drew to a close with the USS NEWPORT NEWS Team finishing on top. The NEWSmen came in first in their league, then trounced the USS SIERRA by a score of 9 to 2 in the league playoffs to win the Cruiser-Tender Norfolk Area league championship.

During this successful season our team averaged 8.9 runs per game, and held the opposition to an average of 2.2 runs per game. Two of the team members held over .400 batting averages, and several others finished in the .300's.

Due to the transfer and separation of many of the original starters, several men on the second team were called upon to fill gaps in the lineup. These substitute players took over vacant positions and became part of a first-rate ball club.

Three players from the team were selected for the Fifth Naval District All Star Team. Their names and accomplishments are worthy of mention in commendation for their outstanding contributions in league play.

Teammates of CTL Dave Balf, from the Flag Staff on NEWPORT NEWS, say he deserves the most credit in helping the team win the championship. There were many times when things just weren't going right: times when careless errors gave the opposition the advantage; times when Dave's curve ball wasn't breaking or his drop just wasn't dropping. Dave's determination, however, was never in question. He tried hard. And when that didn't get the job done, he tried harder.

Dave Grapshi, a seaman in EX Division, perhaps should be voted Most Valuable Player. Davie has consistently proven that he is capable of filling almost any open spot in the ball club. As the center fielder, he demonstrated all-around ability. He has a tremendous arm, faultless fielding ability, a good eye and a fast bat. Also, his running ability and baseball knowledge proved to be a valuable asset on the field.

There are several reasons why SN Joey DeFrancis, from S-4 Division, was picked

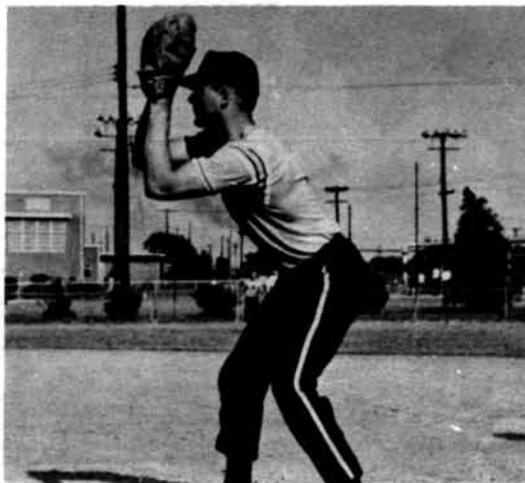
Norfolk Area

Cruiser-Tender Champions

to fill the shortstop position for the All Star Team. Joey held the highest batting average with a mark well over .400. He also covered more ground at shortstop than any man in the league.

Joey was also the team's biggest morale booster. Many times, when the opposing team would harass him by trying to degrade his throwing ability, he would snatch a hot grounder over second base and throw the runner out by two steps. Joey knows he has an arm and how to use it.

Throughout the season many players received congratulations for an outstanding play or a good day at the bat. The sincere efforts of others, however, went un-noticed. One such "Unsung Hero" is Joseph Allen, a Messdecks Master-at-Arms. Allen or "J.J.", as he is known by the team members and shipmates, served the team as full-time manager and outfielder. As manager, he devoted many extra hours in making arrangements and preparations for the team's games. He certainly deserves thanks and congratulations for his fine effort during the entire season.



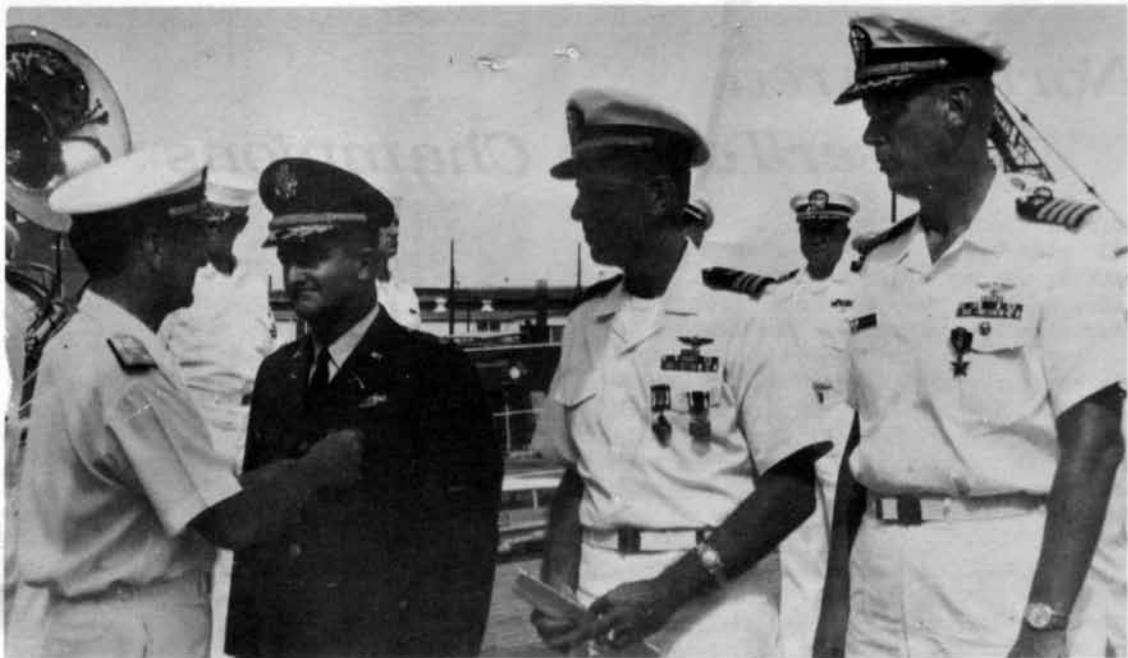
CPL Robert Timony is shown as he catches a throw at first base during a game against the USS Columbus.

To list the achievements of all the members of this year's softball team would be nearly impossible, so let's just congratulate and offer a sincere "WELL DONE" to the following members of the USS NEWPORT NEWS 1967 Championship Softball Team:

- GMG3 Joseph Allen, S-2 Div.
- IC3 Mel Allison, E Div.
- CT1 Dave Balf, Flag Div.
- CS3 Roy Davis, S-2 Div.
- SN Joe DeFrancis, S-4 Div.
- SN Joe DeNatale, 7th Div.
- FN Ken Drake, E Div.
- YN3 Shirl Fosler, EX Div.
- SN Dave Grapshi, EX Div.
- LTJG Gordon Greenfield, Flag Div.
- SN Charles Hoepfl, OS Div.
- YN3 John E. King, EX Div.
- SN Steve Koss, 3rd Div.
- SN Thomas Labiosa, S-3 Div.
- SN Bob McKernan, 3rd Div.
- SN Patrick Nappi, 2nd Div.
- SN Perry Parnell, S-2 Div.
- SN Daniel Warren, NAN Div.
- SN Robert Romano, S-2 Div.
- CPL Frank Rozzi, Marine Div.
- CPL Robert Timony, Marine Div.



Ballteam manager Joseph Allen, Captain McCarty and pitcher Dave Balf are pictured with Newport News trophies.



Medals in honor of outstanding service were presented to Captain Robert F. Schoultz, USN, Lieutenant Commander Richard J. Damico, USN and Major Andrew H. Housand, USA, aboard NEWPORT NEWS on August 21, 1967. All are Staff officers with Second Fleet. Vice Admiral Charles K. Duncan is shown presenting the Legion of Merit Medal to Major Andrew H. Housand.



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TO