THE POINTER

UNITED STATES NAVAL ARMED GUARD CENTER

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WAR BOND DRIVE HITS PEAK AT AGC TODAY

Story on Page 3

REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR. . .AND BUY BONDS

Inset, one of the most remarkable combat photographs of all times, was made at the exact moment the USS Shaw, a destroyer, blew up during the Japanese sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941.

THE POINTER

Published every other Friday by the Welfare and Recreation Office of the United States Naval Armed Guard Center, 52nd Street and First Avenue, Brooklyn, New York. WIndsor 9-6700, Extension 109.

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Commanding Officer
COMDR. J. M. YOUNG
Executive Officer
LT. COMDR. EDWARD T. KING
Welfare and Recreation Officer
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Announce Requirements For Academy Exams

Eligible enlisted men may now apply at the Education Office for authority to take examinations on Apr. 18, 1945, for entrance to the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis in June.

Those desiring to take the examination must have been on active duty on or before Oct. 1, 1944; be not less than 17 nor more than 21 years of age on Apr. 1, 1945; have completed at least three years of high school or its equivalent, and have received credit for satisfactory completion of at least one year of algebra and one year of geometry.

In addition, candidates must be unmarried and never have been married. They are required to have a GCT of 88 on the old type test or 60 on the new. No waivers of any sort on the foregoing will be granted.

Candidates are urged to apply at the Education Office as soon as possible. No applications will be accepted after Dec. 25. High school transcripts must be furnished.

Over 3 Million in Navy

Personnel on active duty in the Navy exceed 3,000,000. As of July 31, the Navy was comprised of the following:

Enlisted men	2,584,821
Enlisted women	58,946
Officers (male)	271,040
Officers (female)	7,808
Officer candidates (male)	109,793
Officer candidates (female)	517
Nurses (commissioned, female)	8,403
Total	3,041,328

Next Pointer Out Christmas Day

The next issue of The Pointer will be published on Christmas Day instead of the previous Friday, Dec. 22.

British Plane Spotter, Normandy Veteran, Sends Praise of AGs to Comdr. Coakley

From Keighley, Yorkshire, in northern England, the following letter dated Nov. 1, was received last week by Comdr. William J. Coakley, commanding officer:

"Dear Sir:

"Having had the honour of being on one of your Liberty boats for two months during the invasion of Normandy, I feel that I would be failing in my duty if I did not place on record the kindness shown to me by the members of the Armed Guard (Lt. Meadows).

"Being an old soldier of the last war, I was rather disappointed when I was posted to a U. S. Ship, but now, I shall look back with happy memories of my stay, with such a grand lot of chaps, who made my job as aircraft identifier such a happy one.

"Friendships have been made and I hope some day to visit the States of which now, I have a wider view, thanks to the frank talks we had on board.

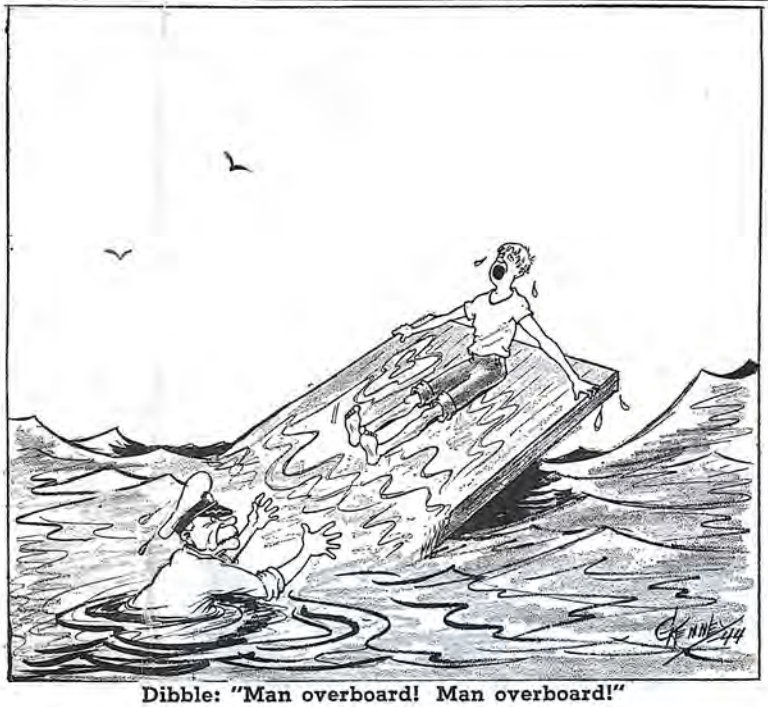
"Well, Sir, in conclusion I would like to thank you if it is possible to have my heart felt thanks expressed to the Gunnery Crew and its able Lieutenant of whom I shall always retain a happy memory, with an insertion in your Armed Guard Gazette, which I had the pleasure of reading whilst on board.

"I am Sir, Your Obedient Servant,
WILLIAM E. ROBERTSON."

A member of the Royal Observer Corps, Robertson was assigned to the SS Samuel McIntyre. The officer referred to in his letter is Lt. (jg) Azel Meadows Jr.

Members of the crew from AGC were Russell W. Kjensrud, Gerald Potter, John S. Charney, Anthony V. Di Pietro Jr., Douglas W. Dodge, Godfrey G. Krickel, Jr., Joseph A. Maresh, Lloyd J. Miller, Marcus T. Ray, Rudolph A. Tozzi, Thomas F. Himmelreich, Peter Beltran, Donald D. Brown, Samuel J. Caraciolo and Sylvester Lemanski.

THE OLD MAN ***By George Kenney***



Dibble: "Man overboard! Man overboard!"

Navy Has Honored 18,042 in This War

Medals, decorations and ribbons awarded during the current war to personnel of the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard and by the Navy to personnel of the Army and of foreign nations:

Medal of Honor	56
Navy Cross	1,687
Distinguished Service Cross (Army)	40
Distinguished Service Medal	146
Legion of Merit	1,003
Legion of Merit (to foreigners)	115
Silver Star Medal	3,319
Distinguished Flying Cross	1,973
Navy and Marine Corps Medal	1,584
Soldier's Medal (Army)	45
Bronze Star Medal	1,176
Air Medal	5,283
Commendation Ribbon	1,611
Life-Saving Medal	4

Mail Heavy at FPOs

The fleet post offices at New York and San Francisco handled 99,305,449 pieces of mail for men on ships and at overseas bases during a recent month.

At District Helm

Rear Admiral Monroe Kelly, above, has been relieved of his duties as commandant of the New York Navy Yard and will continue on in his new post as commandant of the 3d Naval District. Admiral Kelly assumed this command on Nov. 6 when Vice Admiral (then Rear Admiral) William R. Munroe left for his new assignment as commander of the 4th Fleet in the South Atlantic. Rear Admiral Freeland A. Daubin, former commander of submarines, Atlantic Fleet, now commands the Navy Yard.

Trade-In Value: Zero

Robert Glenn, coxswain, finds out at the war bond booth on main deck that he'll have to add $18.75 to the Japanese war bond he is trading for his Pearl Harbor Day bond. Jap bond was sent to him by his brother, James, a Marine now in New Guinea. Selling Gleen the bond is Shanna Dean, one of the Conover "cover girls" who have been taking over the booth during the drive. Knowlton

Pearl Harbor Day Drive Reaches Climax Today; Record Sale Foreseen

"A date which will live in infamy." Again the words of President Roosevelt, issued following the sneak attack upon Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, re-echo as Armed Guards mark this anniversary of Pearl Harbor Day today by digging a little deeper to come up with the purchase of an extra war bond during the Navy Department's current drive.

The Navy has chosen this never-to-be-forgotten day to climax its one week bond campaign, conducted in conjunction with the Treasury Department's 6th War Loan and looks to each man and woman to buy at least one bond before 2400 tonight.

Opening its drive toward a goal of $125,000, the Armed Guard Center staged a brief rally last Friday, Dec. 1, when Alan Corelli was master-of-ceremonies for a variety show on main deck. Vaughn Monroe's orchestra and Martin Block schdeuled an appearance here for Dec. 5 and Dean Hudson's orchestra and Arthur Lesser cap the seven-day campaign this afternoon.

Early sales indicated that AGC would again beat its quota in this drive, as it has in the last two campaigns, and set a new all-time mark for purchases at the station, according to Lt. Comdr. Edward T King, war bond officer. From a sale of $19,312.50 last Pearl Harbor Day, AGC jumped to $119,125 on Independence Day. With all hands pitching in, a new record total is certain.

War Costs 250 Million A Day, Says President

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Cost of the war for a single month has been placed by President Roosevelt at $7,500,000,000—roughly $250,000,000 a day.

Opening the 6th War Loan drive, the President said: "That is why every war bond you buy is important."

NEWS from Elsewhere

Items of interest from other naval activities where Armed Guard men have been stationed.

AG SCHOOL, SHELTON—A directive issued recently by the commandant of the 5th Naval District instructs all Navy drivers to give lifts to naval personnel whenever there are vacant seats available in their vehicles.

AG SCHOOL, GULFPORT—Three ship's company officers are carrying their arms in slings these days, a result of broken limbs suffered in a baseball game.

AGC, TREASURE ISLAND—They call it the Bond "Bar" here. Red, white and blue spotlights focus on the booth, decorated in red, white, blue and gold, where AGs make their purchases in the Pearl Harbor Day bond drive.

SAMPSON—A dramatic club has been established at the center. You Can't Take It With You was the initial production of the group.

GREAT LAKES—Banking facilities are now available at the center for all naval and civilian personnel. The facilities will maintain commercial checking and savings accounts and will provide paying and receiving services. They also will sell war bonds and stamps, cashier's checks and money orders.

Divine Services

CATHOLIC

Daily Mass at 1200, Chapel, Main Deck. Confessions heard half-hour before Mass.

Sunday Mass at 0845 and 1030, Drill Floor, Main Deck.

Confessions heard daily at 1630, Chapel, Main Deck. In emergency, Confessions will be heard at any time.

PROTESTANT

Sunday at 0945, Drill Floor, Main Deck.

Communion Service Sunday at 1030, Chapel, Main Deck.

Wednesday Evening Service at 1930, Main Deck.

Private Communion upon request at any time.

JEWISH

Friday at 1230, Chapel, Main Deck.

1472 Awards Earned by Armed Guards

Medals and citations to Armed Guard personnel for the three-and-a-half month period ending Dec. 1 numbered 279, it is revealed by a report released this week by Lieut. Edwin T. Armstrong, administrative assistant to the commanding officer. Total awards to officers and men as of that date were 1,472.

Seventeen officers were honored during the recent period along with 262 enlisted men for a total breakdown of 66 officer awards and 1,406 in the non-commissioned ranks.

The Navy Cross received last December by Lt. (jg) John S. Arnold II remains AGC's highest award while the Legion of Merit to Lt. (jg) John C. Landrigan, presented last October, ranks second. Seventeen enlisted men have been honored with the Silver Star Medal.

Assume Added Duties

Two ship's company officers added to their duties in recent weeks when Lieut. Clyde R. Spitzner, transportation and detail officer, assumed the position of liberty officer, and Lieut. Cecil A. Amdur, education officer, took on the post of civil readjustment officer.

Jerseyite Honored

For injuries he suffered when his ship was bombed going into the Normandy beachhead on June 7, Robert Fratello, S1c, of Newark, N. J., was awarded the Purple Heart Medal at the station on Nov 24.

524 Add New Stripes

More than 500 Armed Guards are sporting extra stripes this week. Promotional lists released recently by the Education Office reveal the advancement of 26 AGs to first class petty officer and 182 to second class, while 316 achieved third class rank, a total of 524 promotions.

Those advanced to first and second class status, listed according to new ratings:

BM1c

Wallace Adich, John M. Eaton, John F. Strukely.

GM1c

Franklin B. Hayes, George F. Lambert, Floyd W. Vannice.

SM1c

Howard B. Dolen, Jr., Omega East, Raymond J. Jackson, William E. Johnson, Walter E. Lahart, George C. Ludlow, Roy M. Oldford, Jose D. Santiago, Kenneth C. Schellenberger, Joseph P. Sullivan, Camille N. Talbot, Raymond I. Wilkinson, Horace C. Wisniewski.

RM1c

Lewis T. Creech, Walter R. Denman.

MM1c

Clifford E. Nock.

Y1c

Doyle M. Brown, Joseph H. Secary.

SC1c

James E. MacNeil, Elmer H. Layette.

BM2c

Edward E. Ball, William S .Canfield, Oscar L. Chitwood, Francis X. Connolly, Robert E. Creed, John C. De Mattia, John J. Harding, Jr., James Patterson, Gene E. Pennington, Julian A. Powell, Howard Schmeck, George Wargo, Frederick F. Cushman, Jr., Peter C. De Pascale, James A. Fath, Angus N. Patterson, Jr., Leonard L. Peterson, Kenneth R. Reid, Jr., Kenneth W. Schott, Gerald D. Brien, Joseph A. Roslewicz, Raymond J. Raque, Fred Seiler, Jr., John H. Dorsey.

Daniel G. Bandy, Frank J. Difloe, Jr., Henry J. Gursky, Melvin M. Kubes, John H. Lewis, Arthur M. Malone, Marshall D. Peace, J. D. Spencer, Adelbert A. Turner, Fred Baessler III, Clyde R. Burage, Charles A. Cochran, Donald J. De Planche, Clyde J. Edge, Albert Forgatch, Robert M. Morrell, Everett C. Moussette, Wenford W. Phagan, Robert H. Rennell, Julius B. Russell, Joseph Sideri, Steve A. Taksony, Cornell H. Thrift, David E. Barry.

GM2c

William Coyner, Donald H. Latham, Leonard J. Mascaro, Raymond J. Niehues, William A. Altmannsberger, Ernest D. Beck, Forrest R. Border, Bernard F. Burns, Andrew Conkovich, Paul M. Day, James W. Dial, Patrick J. Donnelly, Benjamin W. Drobnicki, Virgil S. Elkins, William E. Fortune, Dewey A. Garner, Edward P. Gothard, Clifford E. Hall, Maurice V. Holtmyer, Willie G. Hughes, John E. Kavanaugh, Lowell C. Kittelson, Roland F. Manske, Warren E. McCormack, William L. Oldfield, Jr.

Frank Prosen, Robert P. Reckmack, Elmore S. Rosam, Leland W. Sherwood, Charlie B. Stubblefield, Richard J. Szczodrowski, Lloyd W. Wigginton, William R. Williron, Ubaldo Yengo, Erroll R. Birnie, Clarence A. Boggess, John B. Cadrin, Guido Gelsomino, Fred J. Nubile, Joseph J. Pozarycki, Alvin S. Simmer, Richard D. Kutz, Joseph R. Gasperak, Laurent R. Audet, Lambert E. Bagwell, Jr., Robert B. Young.

SM2c

William J. Morris, Edward C. Matthews, Jr., Bernard L. Lalonde, Alan G. Robertson, Robert M. Wadlow, Fred J. Maroon,

(Continued on Page 9)

Hudson Band Swings Out Today At Pearl Harbor Day Bond Rally

Dean Hudson's orchestra, with Frances Colwell, vocalist, inset left. That's the maestro, right.

A Pearl Harbor Day war bond rally on main deck, climaxing Armed Guard's drive, will be sparked by Dean Hudson and his orchestra from the Hotel Lincoln in New York.

Labeled "The Band of Tomorrow," the Hudson outfit is heard regularly over the CBS and Mutual radio networks. Petite Frances Colwell and Ralph Hill handle the vocal department with the orchestra, which also features "Drummer Boy" Parker Lund.

Arthur Lesser will be on hand to conduct the rally and the beautiful Conover models, who have been at the station each day of the current bond drive, will act as bond saleslades.

Two AGs Gain Officer Status

Two enlisted men from AGC are on their way to the Naval Training School at Hollywood, Fla., for indoctrination this week, following their recent commissionings.

John A. Barringer, of Ada, Okla., a signalman 1st class, was given rank as ensign, while Morris N. Kimmel, Brooklyn, N.Y., storekeeper 2d class from the AG Disbursing Office, made lieutenant (jg).

Before leaving, Barringer opened the Radio Shack's Pearl Harbor Day war bond drive by making the division's first purchase. He bought a $100 bond.

New Carrier Commissioned

The USS Bon Homme Richard, the Navy's newest airplane carrier, commissioned recently at the New York Navy Yard, cost more than $60,000,000, the equivalent of 3,200,000 war bonds of the $18.75 denomination.

ADs Named for Localities

Destroyer tenders take their names from localities and areas of the United States.

Gun Crew Officer Who Gave His Life Honored By Navy

WAVE Ensign Elizabeth A. Leovy has received the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, a posthumous award to her husband, Lt. (jg) Thomas M. Leovy Jr., who was commander of an Armed Guard gun crew aboard a cargo ship that was torpedoed.

Lieut. Leovy left the safety of his own life raft and swam over to help right and bail out a capsized life raft carrying fourteen survivors. They were picked up and carried to a South African port from which they soon shipped out, with Lieut. Leovy once more in command of the gunners.

Aboard this vessel, they were again torpedoed. The lieutenant remaining to the last, just managed to get off as the ship sank. He lost his life when, after giving his life belt to another man who could not swim, he refused to take refuge in an already overcrowded lifeboat.

Navy Mail Service

Navy Mail Service keeps track of 45,000 ships and shore stations.

Turkey Day brought these scenes to the Armed Guard Center. Jimmy Waller, a signalman, caught by cameraman before and after, in photos bottom center, reflects the spirit of most AGs who enjoyed Thanksgiving feast aboard. Comdr. Young, executive officer, upper right, spoke briefly. Do you feel that gravy trickling, lower right, as Ernie McKee bastes the holiday birds?

. . .THAT WAS SOME MEAL!"

Odds and Ends

Of the 27 Armed Guards, including the officer, aboard the SS Antietam, writes Coxswain John McFayden, seventeen are married. These seventeen are the fathers of "42 future great Americans." (Why "future", Johnny?) Heading the group are two 1st class seamen who have eight and seven children respectively.

"For not too large a crew," McFayden goes on, "we believe we are the holders of some kind of a record."

You ain't jest a-kiddin', bub. If any crew of gunners can top this one, they'll have to send us proof with their claim. We're gonna be from Missouri on anybody trying to beat the Antietam's mark.

★ ★ ★

Things-to-Think-About-on-Idle-Nights Department. How did these Armed Guards come to get their first and/or middle names: a) Jack Dempsey Lewis. b) Chaplain Eugene Schmidt. c) Louis Louis Montante. d) Andrew Jackson Sutherland.

★ ★ ★

A "floating gym," assembled by the Armed Guard gun crew, is to be found in the No. 2 hold of the SS Elihu Root and the gunners aboard want you to know it's the "best to be found" on any Liberty. The gym is equipped with a basketball court, handball court, ping-pong table, boxing ring and sand bag.

In their first basketball game aboard, the gunners defeated the merchant crew by the football tally of 14 to 13. They've also staged several boxing cards, meeting an American Army outfit and a French Army group, among others.

One of the crew has this to say: "I don't think we are good enough to play the station team back in Brooklyn but we think we are good enough to play the WAVES. Can you give me the name of the team's captain so we can arrange a game?"

We've asked the WAVES about this and they aren't interested. "Let them get a reputation first," said one of the girls. "Then we may consider it."

★ ★ ★

By this time you've certainly heard about the WAVE on sentry duty who had to be told over and over that when a person approached, the proper procedure called for her to say: "Halt, who goes there?" Not "Stop or I'll scream."

★ ★ ★

For the enjoyment of Armed Guards serving aboard "rust-pots", Ens. Harold Putnam of the SS West Keene, forwards this bit of rhyme he composed:

TO THE WEST KEENE

Dirty freighter, old freighter,
Red-speckled rust-pot,
Pitching and rolling,
Blows cold and blows hot.
Weary old traveler
Muddling through waves
To the ports of our Allies,
"They made" each raves.

She's as common as water,
A regular tramp,
King Neptune's daughter,
Unforgettable vamp.
She's as common as clouds
And as ancient as sin,
Now a rugged old lady
We'll sail to win.

★ ★ ★

Did you know that when an admiral of the U. S. Navy dons his dress uniform he puts on about $75 worth of gold braid?

★ ★ ★

"I was commissioned at muster yesterday," reads a V-mail from Lt. (jg) M. B. Pasch, formerly of the Captain's Office, "to challenge the right of the gun crew of the SS Andrew Furuseth to the title of the 'writing-est crew in the Armed Guard.'

"According to the story in your column, the Armed Guard officer on that ship censored 1,196 pieces of mail in seven weeks. Well, in five weeks I have censored 1,296 letters submitted by the 38 members of the gun crew of the SS Joseph T. Robinson and we are a long way from home—so there'll be plenty more."

Let's make room for the new champ.

★ ★ ★

Captain: "What's your name and rate and what are you charged with?"

Prisoner: "My name is Sparks, I'm an electrician's mate 3d class and I'm charged with battery."

Captain: "Put him in a dry cell."

—STAN SAPLIN

Auxiliaries Lift Limit on Fleet's Range

Our Navy today can assemble a floating advance base at any point in any ocean, with absolutely no limit to its striking range, as a result of the development of the auxiliary fleet, known familiarly as the "A" fleet.

In previous wars it was unheard of for a fleet to strike more than 1,000 miles or so from its base. Task forces, in the sense in which they operate now, were unknown until this war, and even when they were developed, the Japs assumed that they would have to return to base for refueling after a strike.

This was solved by putting hulls under service stations and ammunition depots and taking them to sea with the fleet. From its train of auxiliary ships a task force can obtain fuel oil, ammunition, spare parts, food, fresh water—anything from a piece of sheet metal to a sirloin steak. Any damaged ship that still floats can be repaired sufficiently to make port.

These are the members of the "A" fleet:

AD—Destroyer Tender. AE—Ammunition Ship. AF—Provision Storeship. AG—Miscellaneous. AGP—Motor Torpedo Boat Tender. AGS—Surveying Ship. AH—Hospital Ship. AK—Cargo Ship. AKA—Attack Cargo. AKN—Net Cargo Ship. AKS—General-Stores-Issue Ship. AKV—Cargo Ship and Aircraft Ferry. AN—Net-Laying Ship. AO—Oiler. AOG—Gasoline Tanker.

AP—Transport. APA—Attack Transport. APB—Barracks Ship. APc—Coastal Transport (small). APH—Transport for evacuation of wounded. APL—Barracks Ship. AR—Repair Ship. ARB—Repair Ship, Battle Damage. ARG—Repair Ship, Internal Combustion Engine. ARH—Repair Ship, Heavy Hull.

ARL—Repair Ship, Landing Craft. ARS—Salvage Vessel. ARV—Aircraft Repair Ship. AS—Submarine Tender. ASR—Submarine Rescue Ship. ATA—Ocean Tug, Auxiliary. ATF—Ocean Tug, Fleet. ATO—Ocean Tug, Old. ATR—Ocean Tug, Rescue. AW—Distilling Ship. LSV—Landing Ship, Vehicle.

12 Million in Armed Forces

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Net strength of U. S. armed forces was 11,859,000 on Oct. 1, Major General Lewis B. Hershey, selective service director, reported to the Senate Military Affairs Committee. The figure includes 109,000 women in the Navy—nurses, WAVES, SPARS and Marines—and 80,000 WACs.

BACK THE ATTACK—
BUY MORE WAR BONDS!

USAAC Drivers Feted by AGC

Thirty-nine members of the USAAC Emergency Corps, volunteer drivers who man ambulances at AGC, were feted at a dinner at the station recently in appreciation of the service they render in behalf of the men and officers of the Armed Guard.

Each driver was presented with a letter of commendation and ribbon, similar to those received by Red Cross and AWVS personnel, by Comdr. William J. Coakley, commanding officer.

Present were Col. Alan Corelli, director of the USAACs; Maj. Burt Mirken, Capt. Peter Maul, Capt. Harold Levy, Lieut. George Pessman, Lieut. Nat Neuman, Lieut. Joseph Higgins and Lieut. Irving Diener.

Promotions

(*Continued from Page 5*)

Robert J. Haas, Patrick A. Connor, Jr., Roy E. Fromm, Raymond Joseph, Herbert P. Stark, Anthony Zuccaro, Walter W. Altus, Jr., Parker G. Manning, Charles Weisberger, Robert M. Young, Gene A. Pyles, Lewis A. Caputa, Gilbert Adin, Louis P. Beard, Jesse F. Beers, Jr., Walter R. Birkes, Arnold D. Blunk, Francis A. Clements.

Harold W. De Vried, George J. Fava, John J. Flannery, Philip R. Hey, Howard F. Kane, Bruno P. Kensok, Robert D. Kruse, Frank G. Ludington, William E. Merar, Charles F. Nix, Bryant J. Nugent, Jr., Arlington D. Olmstead, Dale L. Overstake, Jerry A .Pacilio, Russell G. Parker, Andrew W. Pollock, Jr., Lewis I. Rosen, Thomas A. Sheehan, Peter J. Sroka, Robert E. Swoyer, Alvin G. Thompson, Robert G. Walden, James G. Bezacinsky, Robert C. Boyle, Edward J. Dufek, Robert N. Geising, Harry Greenberg, Edgar Hall, Jr., Joseph P. Kaminski, George M. Klein, Calvin H. La Motte, Spiro J. Pappas, Kenneth M. Richard, William E. Thomas, Jr., Paul W. Timbrook.

RM2c

Joseph M. Hanratty, Gene F. Harrison, Thomas J. White, Jr., John W. Raczek, Jr., Stephen J. Pejka, Herbert A. Hill, Ralph E. Clark, Jr., Charles A. Vogel, George M'hu, LeRoy E. Olsen, Liduino Severino, Prentiss R. Taylor, Donald E. Harmelink, Ervin L. Ulma.

SF2c

Donald K. Langton.

MM2c

Thomas J. Ott.

MoMM2c

Nicholas A. Cocco.

EM2c

Joseph B. Bronder, Thomas J. Cavanaugh.

Y2c

Mary V. Cifone, May L. Smalley, Wanda Snyder.
Snyder, Russell E. Sheahan.

SKD2c

Peter C. Romano.

SSML2c

Gennaro M. Ardolino, Pearson N. Holloway, Jack R. Malone.

Sp(1)2c

Frederic I. Bacon.

MaM2c

Emilio Pagliaro.

. . .*Unraveling the Story of 1, 3 and 5*

GUN CREW No. 1
First Crew Assembled at AGC

GUN CREW No. 3
First Crew to Leave the States

When is 1 not 1? If No. 3 is No. 1, then No. 1 must be 2 or 3. . .or 4 or mebbe 5. Well, no, it can't be 5 because—well, let's clear up the whole thing.

When the last issue of The Pointer noted the third anniversary of the sailing of Gun Crew No. 1 on Dec. 2, 1941, it moved John G. Bunch, BM1c, of the Port Director's Office in Norfolk, to dig into his bag of memories and come up with some interesting sidelights.

Bunch reveals that although Gun Crew No. 1, attached to the SS Dunboyne, was the first crew assembled at AGC, Gun Crew No. 3, commanded by Ens. Harold A. Axtell and assigned to the SS Larranaga, was the first unit to leave the United States, sailing to Murmansk before the outbreak of war. Ens. Axtell later was reported missing in action.

The Larranaga arrived in Murmansk Jan. 27, 1942, and remained there 42 days, meeting the Dunboyne in Iceland on the return voyage. The latter vessel reached Murmansk Apr. 28. Gun Crew No. 3 on the Larranaga had the distinction of bringing the first lend lease supplies to Russia, according to Bunch.

The photo in the previous issue of Gun Crew No. 1, a small snapshot found in the station's archives, was not No. 1, as described in the accompanying story, but instead was Gun Crew No. 5.

GUN CREW No. 5

Four members of Gun Crew No. 3, in addition to Ens. Axtell, were lost in action on later assignments. They were Charles J. Moore, Raymond Jacques, Dalton Munn and Tony Manifold. Other Armed Guards aboard were Joe Mauro, Claude A. Allison, Hugh H. McGregor and Bunch.

Gun Crew No. 5, of the SS Greylock, was commanded by Ens. James D. Williams and contained the following members: Fred H. Conklin, Lonnie A. Godley, James W. Hendricks, Joseph T. Baird, Kenneth T. Lee, Edward A. McGrath, Joseph W. Nevils and Alfred J. Rogero.

Ens. Rufus T. Brinn headed Armed Guard's No. 1 crew. His unit, as previously described, was composed of Eaton P. DeCottes, Edward C. Hoban, Hugo P. Schill, Gustav W. Schill, Jr., Ishmael A. Schuman, Thomas J. Dixon, Edwin B. Newman and Frederick W. Simpson.

WAVE Officers Advanced

Ens. Elaine Briggs, WAVES representative; Ens. Beatrice Ahlgren and Ens. Virginia Ellms, the first WAVES assigned to AGC, were promoted to lieutenant (jg), to take rank on Dec. 1, it was announced Monday.

Prison to Brig

Because Admiral Nelson once assigned a small brig to carry captives taken in one of his naval engagements, sailors have associated that name with a prison.

Communications Tops Detail, 18-12, Taking Touch Grid Lead from Losers

Jim Fabiano's four completed short passes to Bill Chase, culminating in a touchdown with one minute to play, gave Communications an 18-12 victory over Detail in a station touch football league game on Nov. 24 and enabled the winners to overtake the Detailers in the heated pennant race. As a result, the defeated team, now resting in second position, fell out of the pace-making spot for the first time since play began late in October.

Bad weather caused a raft of postponements during the last two weeks, bringing about the rescheduling of games that will necessitate the continuation of activity in the league until the week before Christmas. Disbursing, beating the Yeomen, 7-0, and Supply, 19-0, moved into third place in the standing and drove the former array a notch below.

In their win over Detail, the Communicators were sparked by Fabiano, whose passing was a constant threat to the losers. One Radio touchdown came on a 45-yard heave, also taken by Chase for a score. The other tally came on Cal Doig's interception of a Detail aerial and his 25-yard runback.

With time running out and the score tied, Communications had the ball on the 15-yard line when Fabiano, football captain at the University of Vermont several years ago, pitched his quartet of spot passes to add six precious points to his team's total. The outcome reversed the decision of the previous clash between these rivals, a 13-6 win for Detail.

TOUCH FOOTBALL

SCORES

Communications-Supply, postponed.
Disbursing 7, Yeomen 0.
Communications 18, Detail 12.
Supply-Sick Bay, postponed.
Detail-Supply, postponed.
Sick Bay-Disbursing, postponed.
Communications-Yeomen, postponed.
Disbursing 19, Supply 0.
Yeomen 13, Detail 12.

STANDING

	W	L	T	Pct.	P.F.	P.A.
Communications	6	1	0	.857	128	50
Detail	4	2	0	.667	93	56
Disbursing	4	3	1	.571	91	76
Yeomen	4	3	0	.571	88	81
Sick Bay	1	4	0	.200	44	87
Supply	0	6	1	.000	45	137

SCHEDULE

Dec. 7—Detail vs. Yeomen.
8—Sick Bay vs. Detail.
11—Yeomen vs. Sick Bay.
12—Communications vs. Supply.
13—Supply vs. Sick Bay.
14—Detail vs. Supply.
15—Sick Bay vs. Disbursing.
18—Communications vs. Yeomen.

Look What He's Got

When you see a line forming outside Ship's Store these days and overflowing onto main deck, you'll know a shipment of popular brand cigarettes has arrived. Those cartons Harry Taylor is unloading vanished five minutes after this photograph was made. Cigarettes are rationed at two packs-a-man per day.

SS Joseph Hooker's Gunners Victors in Overseas Softball

When six Armed Guard ships found themselves anchored close together recently at an overseas port, the gun crews quickly organized a softball tournament. Breezing through the field without a loss, the AGs of the SS Joseph Hooker, managed by Dom Oteri, captured the title.

Other gunnery units competing were from the SS Noah Webster, SS Patrick Henry, SS George W. Campbell, SS Roger Moore and SS Robert Harrison.

Keglers Rolling In League Play On Station Alleys

Sporting such picturesque names as the Sad Sacks, Big Operators, Yeo-Yeos, Greenbacks and Umbriogos, 28 teams were away pin-toppling this week when the AGC 1944-45 bowling league began operation on the station's new alleys on lower deck. Not to be outdone, 10 WAVES' teams, bearing interesting handles such as the Eager Beavers, Sea Bags and Bloomer Girls, began tossing strikes the following night.

League play in quest of the title won last year by the Supply keglers will be conducted every night from Monday through Friday. Three men's matches will be held daily except Tuesdays and Wednesdays when two male matches and one WAVES encounter will be decided.

The opening of the six modern alleys on station permits the conduct of the tournament at home for the first time. In former years, the league operated on a one-night-a-week basis at the Fortway Alleys in Bay Ridge.

The schedule:

MEN

Dec.
7—Supply 2 vs. White Caps.
Welfare 2 vs. Detail.
Yeomen 2 vs. Yeomen 1.
8—Yeo-Yeos vs. Post Office Blues.
Post Office Whites vs. Ash Hoppers.
Laundry vs. Machine Shop.
11—Ship Fitters vs. Communications.
Welfare 1 vs. Nine Old Men.
Wardroom vs. Question Marks.
12—Big Operators vs. Sad Sacks.
Liberty vs. Greenbacks.
13—P. O. Blues vs. P. O. Whites.
Umbriogos vs. Transportation (Port).
14—Transport. (Stbd.) vs. MAA Coppers.
Supply 1 vs. Supply 2.
White Caps vs. Welfare 2.
15—Detail vs. Yeomen 2.
Yeomen 1 vs. Yeo-Yeos.
Sad Sacks vs. Disbursing 4.
18—Ash Hoppers vs. Laundry.
Machine Shop vs. Ship Fitters.
Communications vs. Welfare 1.
19—Question Marks vs. Liberty 1.
Nine Old Men vs. Big Operators.
20—Greenbacks vs. Umbriogos.
Disbursing 4 vs. Transport. (Stbd.)
21—Transportation (Port) vs. Supply 1.
MAA Coppers vs. White Caps.
Supply 2 vs. Detail.
22—Welfare 2 vs. Yeomen 1.
Yeomen 2 vs. Post Office Blues.
Yeo-Yeos vs. Ash Hoppers.

WAVES

Dec.
12—Air Mail vs. Sea Bags.
13—Eager Beavers vs. Landlubbers.
19—Mustangs vs. Special Delivery.
20—Strikers vs. Wavettes.

Gunners Cop Court Debut, 43-34

Henry High Scorer in Defeat of St. Albans As Gunners Lead from Start; WAVES Beaten

The Armed Guard Center basketball team was unveiled for the inspection of all hands on the main deck last Monday night and was voted satisfactory. With the court lined by hundreds of AGs, the local squad made its debut against the St. Albans Hospital cagers, winning a 43-34 decision in a contest in which they never relinquished a lead they grabbed in the early moments of play.

Though faults were obvious, the Gunners indicated they will offer plenty of trouble even for the sternest opposition, once they have a handful of games behind them. But it is undoubtedly out of order to offer any apologies for their performance in the inaugural.

Not once was there any question of AGC's superiority, not even when the corpsmen ripped into an eleven-point lead at the opening of the last quarter and hacked away until they had pulled up to within two points at 31-29 with six minutes remaining. Eddie Burns and Bill Kresge calmly caged a pair of goals at this stage and the Gunners were again in command.

Minutes later, largely through Ed Lasowski's standout play, St. Albans was back within four markers of the Gunners but Bill Henry, the game's high scorer, tucked away two baskets and that was the story.

Court activity for the season at AGC opened an hour before the men's clash when the Armed Guard WAVES fell before St. Albans' girls, 31-27, despite Sue Green's fine ten-point effort. Maxine Hassan, the victor's captain, was top scorer with 15.

To open the men's game, Comdr. Coakley, commanding officer, tossed up the first ball. Henry sunk a foul shot, Pete Cory tied it up with a penalty shot. Hank Rosenstein then dropped in five successive points and from there in St. Albans never was close except for their last period rally. The half ended with the Gunners leading, 17-13.

Court Line-ups

ST. ALBANS WAVES (31)

	G	F	P
Phifer, lf	6	0	12
Hudson, rf	1	0	2
Killelea	1	0	2
Hassan, cf	7	1	15
Barron, lg	0	0	0
Fosnight	0	0	0
Taylor, cg	0	0	0
Galico	0	0	0
Totals	15	1	31

Referee—Ens. Kiplinger.

AGC WAVES (27)

	G	F	P
Oakes, lf	4	1	9
Ahlgren, rf	4	0	8
Green, cf	5	0	10
Donato	0	0	0
Wilkening, lg	0	0	0
Mangan	0	0	0
Irvin, cg	0	0	0
Hartman	0	0	0
Totals	13	1	27

ARMED GUARD (43)

	G	F	P
Henry, lf	5	3	13
Markulin	0	0	0
Pastushok, rf	4	0	8
Rosenstein, c	2	3	7
Stockhoff	0	0	0
Burns, lg	3	5	11
White, rg	0	0	0
Kresge	2	0	4
Totals	16	11	43

Officials—Rauppius and [illegible]itzner.

ST. ALBANS (34)

	G	F	P
Lasowski, lf	2	2	6
Levin	0	1	1
Porter, rf	1	4	6
Small, c	2	1	5
Hayes, lg	0	0	0
Weiss	3	0	6
Cory, rg	3	4	10
Peviti	0	0	0
Totals	11	12	34

WORLD SERIES MOVIE HERE NEXT THURSDAY

"World Series of 1944," official movie of America's baseball classic, recently released to service men overseas, will be shown on the Armed Guard screen next Thursday, Dec. 14.

Unbeaten Gun Crew Won 18 Softball Tilts

Pounding out a 14-0 victory on Oct. 27, the Armed Guards of the SS Reverdy Johnson concluded an undefeated softball season in which they hung up eighteen straight victories, according to word received from overseas last week from Ens. Russell Urquhart, gunnery officer.

Captained by Harding Gilley, the Johnson's gunners compiled the impressive record at the expense of Armed Guard crews met in various war areas around the world.

Members of the seventeen-man squad, in addition to Gilley, were Rue Moody, Chester Leyo, Harold Matlick, Bill Bailey, Al Poirer, Ernie Mitch, Nat Di Guardia, Arthur Chubbs, Bill Cushing, Al Aspinall, John Croke, Sal Amato, George Beeker, Mike Hennessy, Bill Adams and Dan Margino.

AGC Bows Out in Semis Of Volleyball Meet

AGC was eliminated in the semi-final round of the recent 3d Naval District volleyball championship when the Gunners lost to Floyd Bennett Field, 15-10, 15-9.

Armed Guards Tangle In Ring Next Week

Plans for a monthly boxing show for all hands, with the opening card set for Dec. 15, were announced last week by the Welfare and Recreation Office.

All Armed Guards are eligible to compete. Bouts will be held at all weights, with prizes going to winners and losers. The ring will be pitched on main deck.

Entries are being accepted in the Recreation Office.

Coast Guard Five Here Tonight

Armed Guard's second start of the campaign tonight on the main deck at 1930 finds the Gunners meeting a seasoned Manhattan Beach Coast Guard five, with thirteen games, nine of them victories, under its belt. In the preliminary at 1830, the WAVES tackle the WAVES Barracks cagers of New York.

The Gunners travel Saturday night for a game with St. Francis College of Brooklyn. Marine Barracks are here for a clash Monday night and Ft. Hamilton comes in next Thursday, Dec. 14. The Brooklyn Army Base and Cathedral College will be entertained on Dec. 18 and 21, respectively. A tilt at Pier 92, New York, is carded for Dec. 13.

The probable line-up for tonight's Manhattan Beach game:

Armed Guard		Manhattan Beach
(28) Henry	L.F.	Carter (25)
(70) Pastushok	R.F.	Peters (21)
(33) Rosenstein	C.	Piotrowicz (26)
(30) Burns	L.G.	Taylor (30)
(71) White	R.G.	McAuley (24)

SUBSTITUTES

Armed Guard—Kresge 20, Stockhoff 22, Gipes 24, Markulin 40, Jackson 44, Hahn 48, Gully 50. Manhattan Beach—Scarborough 20, Howell 22, Stringer 31, Ash 32, Pollard 34.

BUY WAR BONDS

THE POINTER

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AGC WINS CAGE OPENER, 43-34

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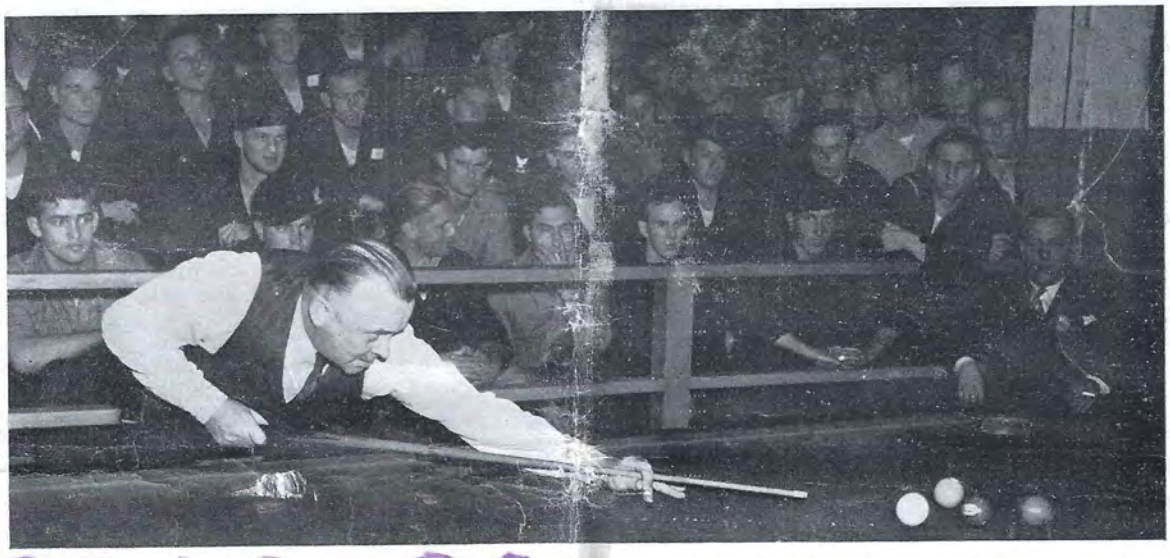

MYSTERY was: "How does he do it?" Erwin Rudolph's billiard exhibition last week left AGs amazed as he unfolded assortment of trick shots in pool lounge at Barracks E building. Cusson

SURPRISE. Welfare Office staff gives wardroom gang a treat on Thanksgiving Day, cleaning tables and dishes after turkey dinner was served to officers. Wardroom staff looks on with pleasure.