

OPS



By
Frank Galvin

Operations men are really keeping on the ball these days with important Task Force maneuvers and the like.

New systems are being put into effect which increase effectiveness. Weather forecasts are called down every fifteen minutes by OA to OI's combat information center, OP and OI team up on lookout watches, and OR furnishes electronic services to OI, which in turn works closely with OR in maintaining contact with other ships in the force. Yes, this is the kind of co-operation and teamwork which makes Bennington's Operations Department one of the tops in the fleet.

A couple of wierdie landings by VP-41 in the past week have been keeping the ships photographers with their noses to the grindstone. Coverage on the Banshee barrier incident was slightly less than colossal, with five cameras, both movie and still, clicking away like mad! The pilot gets the honor of making the cruise book, with the photos receiving a "well done" from forty-one's safety officer. Regular C. B. DuMilles, we are!

GUN



By
Larry Wehlbauer

Recent returns on the November tests taken for Pay Grade R-4 show that the Gunnery Department is gaining two new Petty Officers. Making the big

waves into the ranks of non-commissioned officers were Charles S. Ferri and Joseph P. Franson.

Ferri, a member of the Sixth Division, advanced to Torpedoman Third Class. Franson, Foxtro Division, went from seaman to Fire Controlman Third. Both rates become effective on February 16th.

The question in Foxtro Division now-a-days is "Who will be the first P.O. to go mess cooking?" The reason for this uncertain question is that Foxtro Division may well have more petty officers than any other division on the ship. The totals run something like this: Three Chiefs, seven first class, five second class and 12 third class. They have 12 seamen.

PAY SCALE (cont.)
system to provide rewards for merit and performance instead of longevity; (3) Place career pay grades on a competitive basis with industry, and (4) Establish workable procedures that will guarantee quality personnel for the Armed Forces. The Recommendations are designed to enable the services to be selective in retraining personnel and to provide sufficient incentive for those with needed skills and leadership ability to follow military careers.

No changes in quarters or ration allowances have been proposed. Hazardous duty pay would be geared to the new step in grade but rates would remain unchanged.

Protection through the provisions of a "saving clause" would mean that no individual now serving would receive a pay cut if the proposals are eventually approved through congressional action and new defense directives.

CHAPLAIN (cont.)
parents carries a condemnation even in this life. Recall that the entire Fourth Commandment goes: Honor Father and Mother, that It May Be Well With Thee, and That Thou Mayest Live Long on Earth. We can't even expect blessings in this life if we neglect these obligations. Being in the Navy doesn't eliminate this devotion at all.

inklings by r. henry a.

SPECIAL...SPECIAL...SPECIAL is what we've been seeing for the past few weeks in the daily press. Through the hard work, detailed research, and the many impartial surveys conducted by ENS. Stephens of VP-41 (a newly discovered columnist aboard) the crew has been kept abreast and up on the hints and game winning clues of such sports as tiddeley-winks, marbles, pick-up sticks, golf and what have you...the crew has enjoyed tremendously all of your enlightening comments and data...please do keep up the good work...won't you??

One MC Mutterings hit the top the other day when you heard the brush voice of the boats blurt "...away number three elevator" ...now really, we've had some good ones before but I think this will top 'em all. Also voices from the flight deck tell us to hold our brakes and pull our chuckles on this one...it seems the yellow shirts have been having trouble with a few of the AD's coming in already choked and with reels on... doesn't seem to hamper the flight too much and it is somewhat convenient!

An all hands salute to the band and its tremendous job... the boys on the bennie state that it helps morale 100%...and especially the Air Group, they would like to hear their theme song, Night & Day, just once more. And also how about a short chorus of happy birthday for a friend?

Memo from mother... 'Is the importance of the Navy really increasing?'

FLASH! FLASH!

From Commander Task Force 77.

'Flight time totals for January on Bennington and Shangri-La most gratifying. VA-42 and VAAW-35 detachment. Excellent performances are worthy of note. How about that!!! And congratulations, too, VA-42.