

VF-21 OFFICERS, US NAVY FIGHTER SQUADRON TWENTY-ONE (VF-21) 'BLACKJACKS'

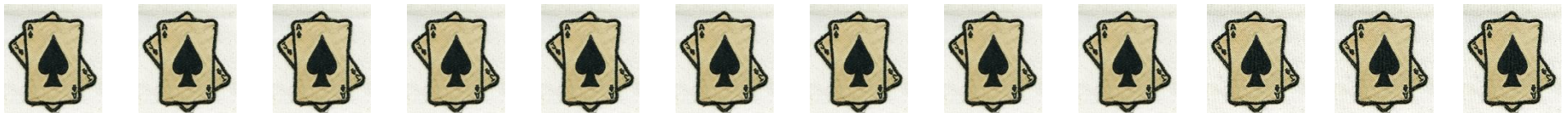


GUADALCANAL, SOLOMON ISLANDS, 20 JUNE TO 3 AUGUST 1943 (2ND TOUR)

BACK STANDING (L-R): *Unknown LANIUS, Frank Bayard PARHAM, Oyd Lee 'Bill' DAUPHIN, Thomas Cheek JOHNSON (KIA 25 Jul 43), *Unknown KORNICKI, *Unknown STILLWELL, *Unknown SPAULDING, George Howard 'Dave' DAVIDSON, Charles Seymore 'Willy' WILLIAMS, John Archdell CROCKER, Edmond Thompson RICHARDSON, John Carlos Cleves SYMMES, Harold Christopher DIXON, Omar Clyde MENOHER, Henry Clay SHELTON.

MIDDLE KNEELING (L-R): Charles Gordon 'Seawall' WALL, Fredric Paul VANDERHOOF, Norman Webb 'Norm' HUTCHINGS, Jr., James Edward SCOTT, Robert Leonard STRAUB, John Wesley MAYHEW, III, James Harmon HARMS (KIA 3 Apr 51), Thomas Donald ROACH (KIA 25 Jul 43), William Edward TERRY, Merton Charles BARSTOW, Jr., Martin DILLON, III, Charles Arthur JACKSON (KIA 30 Nov 43).

FRONT SITTING (L-R): Edward Joseph NUGENT (on one knee), Herman LYONS, Thomas Hayes 'Rider' MOORE, Jack White THOMAS, Edgar Irving KEERS, Jr., Arthur Burton 'Art' WELLS, Gerald Francis BOYLE (KIA 13 Oct 44), William Carmack 'Smitty' SMITH, Walter Clements BEASLEY (KIA 22 Jul 43), Tom Walter LINDSEY, Billy Pendley BURCH, Carlos Reese McKEE, Jr. (KIA 17 Aug 44). (Blackjacks Squadron patch below)



Joe F. Hamrick notes: This Guadalcanal VF-21 Blackjacks Squadron officer's photo was taken between 16 and 21 July 1943 and is from the WW-II scrapbook of CDR John Carlos Cleves Symmes, who wrote the last name of each individual below the picture according to location. A scan of the page was provided by his daughter, Ketty Symmes (see scan in website 'Gallery'). The CAG-21 Guadalcanal War Diary and Symmes' scrapbook provide only last names. Full names were found using Navy muster roles, grave memorials, obituaries, etc. Pilots not pictured are: Cleon Mills ARNOLD, Spero Theodore CONSTANTINE, Rob Roy McGregor CONVERSE, John HULME, Charles Baynard MILTON, Charles Howard OSTROM (KIA 25 Nov 43), George Henry SMITH, Millard Clifton THRASH, Ross Edwin TORKELSON (KIA 22 Jul 43). Pilots KIA before photo: Everett Raymond LARSON (22 May 43), George Robert HENRY (30 Jun 43), Thomas Arthur RUTH (30 Jun 43), Travis Hartin HEARD (4 Jul 43), Jack Hutto REDINGER (15 Jul 43). * Indicates men believed to be non-pilot staff officers or flight officers.

49 PILOTS OF VF-21 BLACKJACKS (F4F-4) FIGHTER SQUADRON, GUADALCANAL, FIGHTER ONE AIRFIELD, 20 JUN TO 4 AUG 1943								
NAME			NICK	GUAD. RANK	KIA DATE	AIR KILLS	BIRTH DEATH	NOTES INCLUDING 5 WARTIME ACES
LAST	FIRST	MIDDLE						
ARNOLD	Cleon	Mills, Jr.	Jack	Lt.(jg)			1920-2002	Mid-air w Jackson near San Diego. Survived. NOT in JCCS Squadron photo.
BARSTOW ""	Merton	Charles, Jr.					1919-2012	Legacy online obit fighter pilot in South Pacific. Muster w Burch, Williams, Thomas.
BEASLEY*^	Walter	Clements	Bubba	Lt.(jg)	22-Jul-43	3	1921-1943	KIA E. of Bougainville w Torkelson. Unrecovered. DFC VF-21.
BOYLE*^	Gerald	Francis		Ens.	13-Oct-44	3	1917-1944	Ace 5.5 , KIS killed in flying accident off USS Belleau Wood. DFC VF-21.
BURCH*^	Billy	Pendley		Lt.(jg)		3	1918-2008	Findagrave obit Navy fighter pilot in the Pacific DFC VF-21.
CONSTANTINE*	Spero	Theodore		Ens.			1920-1996	MIA 14 Jul 43 Rendova, returned 16 Jul. NOT in JCCS Squadron photo.
CONVERSE	Rob Roy	McGregor		Ens.			1917-2009	Blackjacks squadron patch for sale online \$1,275. NOT in JCCS Squadron photo.
CROCKER*""	John	Archdell, Jr.					1916-1970	PA Navy backpay names VF-21 in Apr 1943. Navy Cross w VC-76 2 Oct 1944.
DAUPHIN*	Oyd	Lee	Bill	Ens.			1921-1985	Career, retired as CAPT. Buried Arlington National Cemetery.
DAVIDSON*^	George	Howard	Dave	Ens.		1	1921-1975	Ace 5.5 , To VF-27 on USS Savo Island. Retired CDR. DFC.
DILLON*	Martin, III	(none)		Lt.(jg)		1.5	1922-1981	30 Jun 43 0.5 Betty. 25 Jul 43 Zero. 1964 newspaper USN fighter pilot at Guadalcanal.
DIXON ""	Harold	Christopher					1923-1991	VF-21 DFC on Belleau Wood. 1991 newspaper obit WW2 fighter pilot.
HARMS*^	James	Harmon		Lt.(jg)	3-Apr-51	1	1919-1951	KIS Med. Sea, unrecovered. VF-3 DFC. Newspaper obit USN pilot at Guadalcanal
HEARD*^	Travis	Hartin		Lt.(jg)	4-Jul-43	1	1920-1943	KIA Rendova. Unrecovered. Headstone engraved USN Pilot MIA Rendova.
HENRY*^	George	Robert		Lt.Cdr.	30-Jun-43		1910-1943	KIA Rendova. Unrecovered. VF-21 DFC. Surname DePstrokonski
HULME*^	John	(none)	Jack	Lt.Cdr.			1906-1997	Career RADM. Buried Arlington Nat'l Cem. 25Jun43 detached from VF-21 to CAG-11
HUTCHINGS^	Norman	Webb, Jr.	Norm	Ens.		2	1920-1967	1967 Norm & son died at sea, yachting in Gulf of Mexico off Alabama. VF-21 DFC
JACKSON*^	Charles	Arthur		Lt.(jg)	30-Nov-43	1	1914-1943	KIS mid-air with Arnold near Barrett Lake, San Diego, CA. Body recovered.
JOHNSON*^	Thomas	Cheek		Lt.(jg)	25-Jul-43	2.5	1919-1943	KIA Rendova. Unrecovered. Findagrave memorial names VF-21.
KEERS*^	Edgar	Irving, Jr.		Lt.(jg)		1	1919-1964	1 Jul 43 Val Rendova. 1943 newspaper article & All Hands Air Medal at Guadalcanal
LARSON*^	Everett	Raymond		Lt(jg)	22-May-43		1917-1943	KIA Gunnery practice off Espiritu Santo, sea crash. Unrecovered.
LINDSEY^	Tom	Walter		Ens.		1	1921-2006	30 Jun 43 Betty Rendova. To VF-3 USS Yorktown.
LYONS^	Herman	(none)		Ens.		1	Aug 1921-?	30 Jun 43 Zero Rendova. To VF-3. USS Patuxent w Richardson to Fleet Air Noumea
MAYHEW*""	John	Wesley, III					1920-2012	Retired CDR. FAG memorial obit describes Navy F4F fighter pilot at Guadalcanal.
MCKEE*""	Carlos	Reese, Jr			17-Aug-44		1920-1944	KIA VF-3 USS Yorktown. Buried at sea, unknown cause. 1944 obit names Blackjacks.
MENOHER^	Omar	Clyde		Lt.(jg)		2	1916-1993	13 Jul 43 Zero New Georgia. 17 July 43 1 Float Plane. To VF-3 USS Yorktown.
MILTON	Charles	Baynard	Milt	Ens.			1921-2003	Ace 5 , 16 Jul 43 crash Segi no return date. To VF-15. NOT in JCCS Squadron photo
MOORE*^	Thomas	Hayes	Rider	Lt.(jg)		3	1918-2004	22 Jul 43 Zero, DFC. To VF-3 Yorktown. CAPT. FAG obit w Guadalcanal F4F pilot.
NUGENT*	Edward	Joseph		Ens.			1920-1986	1944 newspaper article states his SW Pacific squadron shot down 68 enemy planes.
OSTROM*^	Charles	Howard	Whitey	Lt.Cdr.	25-Nov-43	1	1908-1943	KIA on USS Liscome Bay, sunk vicinity Makin Isl. NOT in JCCS Squadron photo.
PARHAM*	Frank	Bayard		Ens.		1	1921-1967	4 Jul 43 joined VF-21 at Guadalcanal with Nugent. 17 Jul 43 1 Zero.
REDINGER*^	Jack	Hutto		Ens.	15-Jul-43	2	1921-1943	KIA Rendova. Pics, newspaper articles and more info on Findagrave. Unrecovered.
RICHARDSON ""	Edmond	Thompson					1919-1971	In JCCS not in CAG-21 Diary. On USS Patuxent to Noumea Fleet Air w Lyons 4/4/43.
ROACH*^	Thomas	Donald	Don	Lt.(jg)	25-Jul-43	3.5	1918-1944	KIA Rendova. Unrecovered. VF-21 DFC. FAG memorial USN fighter pilot, Solomons.
RUTH*	Thomas	Arthur		Lt.(jg)	30-Jun-43	1	1917-1943	KIA Rendova. Unrecovered. Headstone engraved w MIA Over Rendova.
SCOTT*""	James	Edward					1920-1960	Obit names Yorktown and not Guadalcanal? To VF-3 USS Yorktown, 2 DFCs
SHELTON*""	Henry	Clay, Jr.	Clay				1919-2008	Obit USN combat pilot Guadalcanal. Retired LCDR.
SMITH^	George	Henry	Super	Lt.(jg)		2	1918-2009	14 Jul 43 MIA returned no date. VF-3 Yorktown. NOT in JCCS Squadron photo
SMITH*	William	Carmack	Smitty	Lt.(jg)		4	1919-1978	Hometown friends w VT-21 TBF pilot M.C. 'Chile' McKinney. To VF-3 Yorktown
STRAUB*""	Robert	Leonard					1920-1984	CDR WW2 Korea. On USS Long Island w Symmes, Shelton, G.Smith.
TERRY ""	William?	Edward?	Ed				1916-1999	To VF-4 USS Wasp. DFC, Air Medal. Obit: no mention of VF-21 or Cactus?
SYMME*^	John	Carlos Cleves	Jack	Lt.(jg)		5.5	1917-1968	Ace 11 , To VF-15 USS Essex, 4 DFCs, 1 Navy Cross, Retired CDR.
THOMAS*^	Jack	White		Lt.(jg)		2	1916-1996	Air Medal for 2 Rendova victories in 'All Hands'
THRASH*	Millard	Clifton		Lt.(jg)			1917-1962	30 Jun 43 Rendova, return 3 Jul. NP "Guadalcanal fighter pilot" NOT in JCCS Sq. pic.
TORKELSON*^	Ross	Edwin		Lt.	22-Jul-43	5	1913-1943	Ace 5 , XO VF-21 KIA E. Bougainville. Unrecovered. DFC NOT in JCCS Squad pic
VANDERHOOF^	Fredric	Paul		Ens.		1	1920-2011	1 Jul 43 Val Rendova. VF-3 USS Yorktown. NASCC Class 2B 1942.
WALL*^	Charles	Gordon	Seawall	Lt.(jg)		1	1920-2003	VF-3 USS Yorktown, DCF. Flying Bond Tour '45. Retired CDR.
WELLS^	Arthur	Burton	Art	Lt.(jg)		1	1920-2005	30 Jun 43 crash Rendova, returned 5 Jul. USS Essex 28 Jul 44 Lt(jg) to Lt.
WILLIAMS*^	Charles	Seymore	Willy	Ens.		3	1920-2010	WIA 25 Jul 43 returned '44. Obit USN fighter pilot wounded in the Solomons.
VF-21 VICTORIES, SOLOMON ISL., 2ND TOUR (+8 1ST TOUR)						60	Joe Foss's Flying Circus' VMF-121 with 74 vics. in 3-mths. VF-21 with 68 vics. in 3-mths	
The last names of 39 VF-21 pilots above are from the CAG-21 War Diary and 10 are from John C.C. Symmes scrapbook (denoted ""). Full names are from USN Muster Rolls and other sources.								
On 20 Jun 1943 VF-21 flew 36 Wildcats from Espiritu Santo to Fighter One Airfield, Guadalcanal with 45 pilots & 37 enlisted. CAG & VT-21 C.O. John Hulme. VF-21 C.O. Charles H. Ostrom.								
On 19 Jul 1943 Segi Field, New Georgia was considered operational. 32 VF-21 Wildcats flew to Segi to remain on scramble status. VF-21 also flew from the Russell Islands on 1 or more missions.								
HEMSLEY, VOWCRANTZ & SCOL listed by Aviation Archaeology (AAIR) as VF-21 pilots losing planes 22 Jul 43 (w Torkelson) are not named in the CAG-21 War Diary or Symmes scrapbook.								
SYMBOL KEY: *Find-a-Grave (FAG) memorial. ^USN 'All Hands' mission and decoration article. ""Last name in John CC Symmes scrapbook (courtesy Ketty Symmes) & not in VF-21 War Diary.								

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FEBRUARY 1944

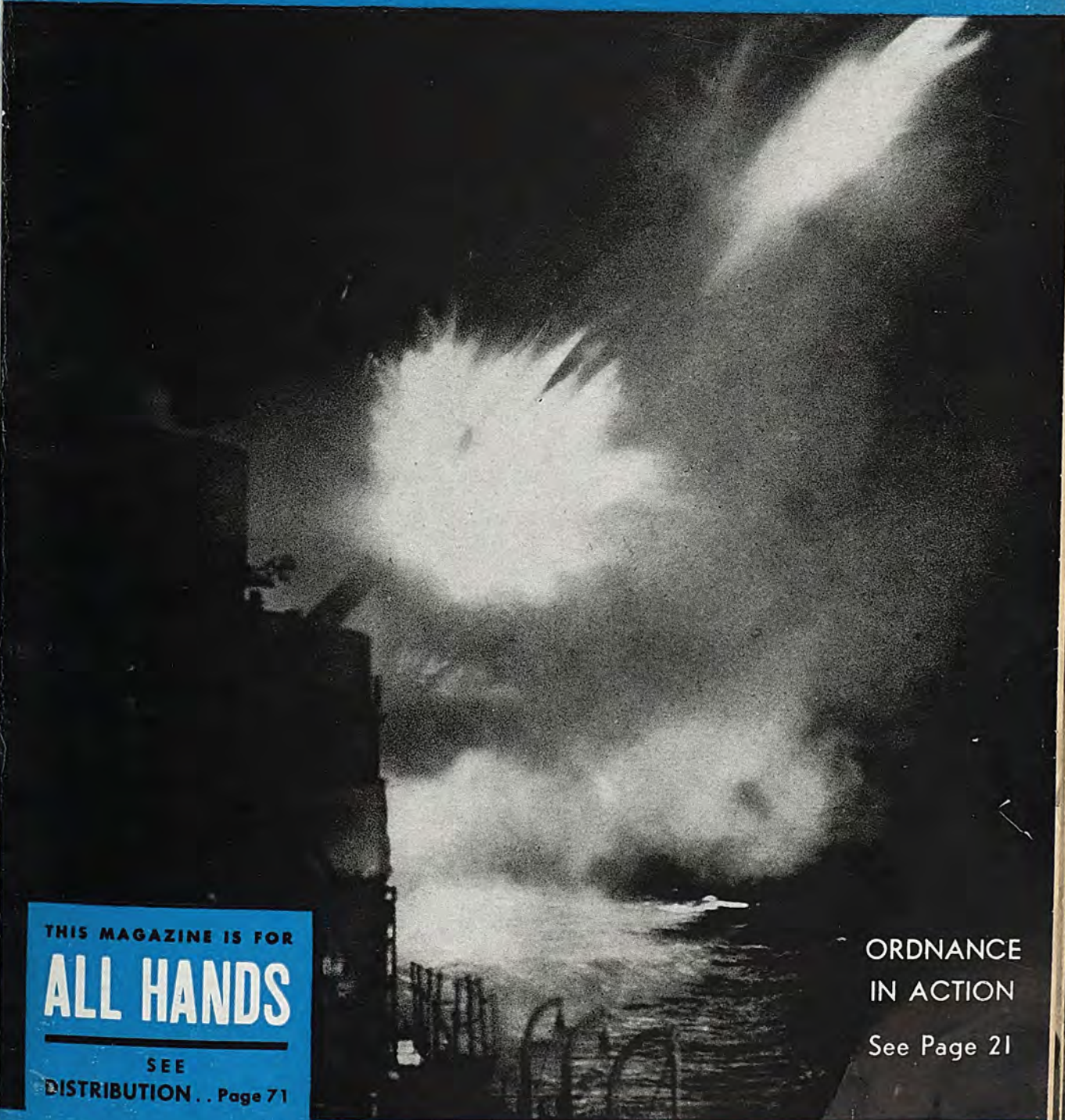
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ORDNANCE
IN ACTION

See Page 21

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during the occupation of Attu, they repeatedly brought their boats through heavy shelling and delivered supplies, explosives and ammunition to the beach. Later they carried out reconnaissance landings on enemy positions and assisted in the evacuation of American troops trapped by enemy forces.

★ Clarence Holcomb, BM2c, USN, Arnaudville, La. (posthumously): Manning a .30-caliber gun on the port side of his warship off Guadalcanal, he sighted a Jap plane coming in fast on a low-altitude bombing and strafing run. Releasing his gun for a moment, he literally threw two shipmates behind the protection of the outboard main deck passageway, then grabbed his gun and poured a stream of lead into the approaching plane. He diverted the bombing attack but fell a victim to the plane's deadly strafing.

★ Robert N. Sturla, Cox, USN, Gilroy, Calif., and Marion L. Williams, S1c, USN, Moselle, Miss.: As landing boat coxswains from a warship during the occupation of Attu, they received an urgent request from the troop commander for special artillery and ammunition. They volunteered for the mission, made a successful trip through the enemy-guarded Holtz Bay to the front line destination and assisted in the evacuation of critical casualties on the return trip.



A. R. Burleigh, S1c

on one plane, finally

★ Alvin R. Burleigh, S1c, USNR, San Antonio, Tex.: When his warship was attacked by German planes while escorting a convoy on 2 September 1943, he directed the fire of the gunners with deadly accuracy and scored several hits destroying it.

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

★ Lt. Comdr. Frederick L. Ashworth, USN, Wenham, Mass.: Commanding a torpedo bombing squadron in the Solomons from 26 April to 12 July 1943, he led his squadron in seven successful bombing raids against strongly defended positions at Munda, Rekata Bay and Vila. He also led a night attack on Japanese shipping and personally scored a hit on a cargo ship.

★ Lt. Comdr. Bernard W. Dunlop, USN, Rockville Centre, N. Y., and Lt. (jg) Nathan F. Waters, USNR, Nocona, Tex.: As pilot and second pilot of a Navy patrol plane, they made three hazardous trips between 5 February and 5 April 1943 to rescue the crew of an Army B-17 forced down on the Greenland ice cap. At great risk to themselves and crew, they skillfully made the first successful wheels-up landing and takeoff on snow in a PBV-5A plane and flew the survivors back to safety.

★ Lt. Comdr. Ross E. Torkelson, USNR, Everest, Kans. (missing in action): As executive officer of a fighter squadron in the Solomons from 21 June to 17



Official U. S. Navy photograph

SOUTH PACIFIC OFFICERS CITED: Commodore Lawrence F. Reifsnider, USN, Westminister, Md. (left) is congratulated by Admiral William F. Halsey, USN, following presentation of the Legion of Merit. At the right is Capt. Francis X. McNerney, USN, South Pasadena, Calif., who was awarded the Silver Star at the same ceremony. Commodore Reifsnider commanded a transport group in the Solomons from 7 August 1942 until 15 July 1943 without loss or damage to any ship under his command. Captain McNerney commanded a task group of destroyers which destroyed four to six Jap ships off Kolombangara Island 12 July 1943.

July 1943, he led 33 successful combat missions and personally shot down three bombers and two Zeros.

★ Lt. Comdr. Clarence M. White, Jr., USN, West Annapolis, Md.: Commanding a fighting squadron in the Solomons from 26 April to 11 July 1943, he led his squadron on numerous patrols, sweeps and escort missions in which a total of 55 enemy planes were shot down. He personally assisted in the destruction of two Zeros.

★ Lieut. Bradford M. Brooks, USNR, Lompoc, Calif.: While piloting a bomber on photographic and bombing missions over Kiska Island from 24 June to 15 August 1943, he made 16 low-level flights to obtain photographs of landing beaches and enemy installations. Twice his plane was damaged by enemy fire. He climaxed six photographic runs with low-altitude bombing attacks.

★ Lieut. Harris O. Torgerson, USNR, Rapid City, S. Dak.: Piloting an observation plane during the assault on Attu, he reported weather conditions over enemy-held positions, spotted artillery fire and strafed targets. He landed on the water beside an Army pilot who had been forced down, transferred him to the float of his plane and taxied him to safety.

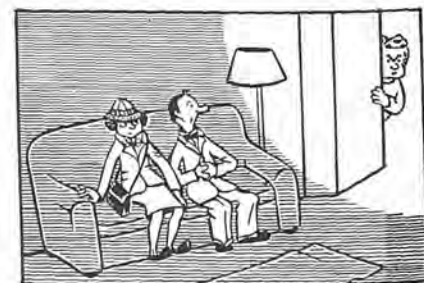
★ Lt. (jg) Walter C. Beasley, USNR, Tampa, Fla. (missing in action): Serving with a fighting squadron in the Solomons from 30 June to 17 July 1943, he took part in a four-plane interception flight against Jap planes threatening our shipping. He dived into a formation of bombers and, when three Zeros chased him, shot down one in flames. Later he destroyed two more.

★ Lt. (jg) Robert I. Bedell, USNR, New York, N. Y.: He was second pilot of a patrol bomber on antisub patrol when it was attacked by eight twin-engined fighters. Although the big flying boat was set afire, her starboard engine

knocked out and one rudder shot away, he helped bring her down in a crash landing at sea. Swimming clear of the burning plane, he assisted two wounded crew members aboard a life raft, which was leaking badly from bullet holes, and managed to keep them afloat.

★ Lt. (jg) Paul B. Kinney, USNR, New York, N. Y.: As second pilot of a PBV on a highly dangerous antisub patrol, he rendered invaluable aid to his commander during an evasive action in which they were attacked by six enemy twin-engined fighters. After shooting down one plane and crippling three others, he carried on despite painful wounds until the big flying boat had eluded the enemy and landed safely.

★ Lt. (jg) Roy E. Reed, USNR, Tutwiler, Miss.: While serving with Fighting Squadron 26 in the Solomons from 1-21 July 1943, he led a division of Wildcat fighters in the interception of a Jap air raid and shot down one Zero. In a subsequent patrol over Rendova his division repelled 15 Jap bombers and he shot down another Zero. Later his division struck an outnumbering force of aircraft and destroyed three more Zeros.



"Has that sailor gone home yet, Wilbur?"



Official U. S. Navy photograph
DESTROYER OFFICER HONORED: Lt. Comdr. Lewis L. Snider, USN, of Faulkton, S. Dak., receives the Silver Star Medal from Admiral William F. Halsey, USN, at South Pacific headquarters. He was cited for conspicuous gallantry while serving as executive officer of the USS *Nicholas* which participated in the sinking of a Jap cruiser and three destroyers in the Battle of Kula Gulf.

CBM, USN, Cisco, Tex., and James O. Noorlander, EM2c, USN, Los Angeles, Calif.: While operating a motor whaleboat during the rescue of survivors alongside the USS *Wasp*, they risked their lives in explosions, oil fires and falling debris to cut loose and save men who had become entangled in the lines while abandoning ship.

★ Eli E. Masse, CMoMM, USN, Chicopee Falls, Mass.: During eight patrols in dangerous waters, he was responsible in large measure for the success of numerous attacks on Japanese shipping.

★ Emil Ade, TM1c, USN, Withrow, Minn.: His technical knowledge and courage under extremely adverse conditions were of great assistance in sinking or damaging much enemy shipping during four extensive patrols on which he was in charge of the after torpedo room.

★ Wallace K. Bulgrin, SM1c, USNR, Rockford, Ill.: Operating a motor whaleboat during the rescue of sur-



Official U. S. Navy photograph
SUBMARINER HONORED: Nicholas A. Bruck, CMoMM, USN, of Vallejo, Calif., received the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for performing his duties aboard a submarine with courage and skill during five war patrols.

vivors alongside the USS *Wasp*, he braved explosions, fiercely burning oil fires and falling debris to cut loose and save men entangled in lines while abandoning ship.

★ Henry H. Dozier, MoMM1c, USN, Portsmouth, N. H.: As throttleman aboard a submarine during five patrols, he rendered valuable assistance in keeping the main engines in operating condition throughout these missions and in sinking a warship and other vessels, totaling 59,417 tons, and damaging 26,800 tons of shipping, including another warship.

★ Douglas I. Peterson, MoMM1c, USN, Downey, Calif.: Manning an important station in the after engine room of a submarine, he performed his duties with outstanding professional ability. His courage was an inspiration to his shipmates.

★ Newton G. Rich, TM1c, USN, Fort Worth, Tex., and Raymond J. Chrzan, TM3c, USNR, Troy, Pa.: While serving in a submarine on war patrol they volunteered to man a rubber boat and assist in a reconnaissance of an enemy-held island. After completing their mission they helped evacuate a large party from the beach. When the boat capsized in the heavy surf, their seamanship and courage were responsible for righting the craft.

★ Charles E. Wiegand, BM1c, USCG, Sturgeon Bay, Wis.; Frank M. Cunningham, SoM2c, USCG, Somerville, Mass., and Henry J. Logar, QM2c, USCG, Enumclaw, Wash.: During the rescue of survivors from a wrecked merchant ship in the North Atlantic in exceptionally rough seas, they went over the side of their Coast Guard cutter and descended to survivors who were clinging helplessly to the cargo net after their life raft had capsized. They succeeded in carrying two of the exhausted seamen up the net.

★ James M. Irwin, PhM2c, USNR, Kansas City, Mo.: When a Jap plane attacked his advanced seaplane base on Florida Island on 22 February 1943, he shielded himself with a wet mattress and courageously rescued an officer and two wounded men from flames and bursting shells. Although exploding small-arms ammunition penetrated the mattress several times, he persevered until the injured had been carried to a place of safety.



J. M. Irwin, PhM2c

★ Charles J. J. McGrath, SoM2c, USCG, Philadelphia, Pa.; Stanley J. Korowicki, S1c, USCGR, Erie, Pa., and John A. Barrett, S2c, USCGR, Rensselaer, N. Y.: During the rescue of survivors from the USS *Plymouth*, they volunteered to man a small boat. Although the small craft was half swamped in launching, they worked tirelessly to keep it from being smashed or flooded and finally picked up several survivors from the shark-infested sea.

★ Ralph M. Miller, EM2c, USNR, Amarillo, Tex.: When his warship, during escort of convoy operations, was attacked by German aircraft on 2 Sep-

tember 1943, his heroic conduct was in keeping with the highest traditions of the naval service.

★ Joseph F. Little, GM3c, USNR, and George J. Erbsland, S2c, USNR, both of New York, N. Y.: When a plane crashed at the Naval Air Station, Quonset Point, R. I., on 14 June 1943 and burst into flames on top of a revetment containing 55 1,000-pound bombs, they ran to the aid of the pilot who was trapped in the blazing fuselage. They cut the parachute straps, pulled the helpless man free and extinguished his flaming clothing with their bare hands.

GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF SECOND



AIR MEDAL

★ Lt. Comdr. Rhodam Y. McElroy, Jr., USN, Lebanon, Ky.: As commander of a dive-bomber squadron in the Solomons from 27 June to 12 July 1943, he led four highly successful attacks against heavily fortified installations on Munda and one attack against a beached Jap destroyer on Kolombangara Island and personally scored numerous hits.

★ Lieut. Jesse B. Jolly, USNR, Turlock, Calif.: When an Army bomber was forced down at sea near Kiska, he landed his patrol plane on the water within close range of enemy shore batteries and rescued the crew of the crippled bomber. Despite the excessive weight, he made a skillful take-off with the six officers and men and flew them to safety.

★ Lieut. Tony F. Schneider, USN, Hillsboro, Mo.: As a dive-bomber pilot in the Solomons from 26 April to 26 July 1943, he attacked antiaircraft batteries, troop concentrations and supply dumps and inflicted severe damage. On 22 July he assisted in sinking one large seaplane tender and in the damaging of a destroyer.

★ Lt. (jg) Thomas D. Roach, USNR, Bogota, Tex. (missing in action): Leading his four-plane fighter division on 33 combat missions, he personally shot down four twin-engined bombers during two of these engagements (21 June to 17 July 1943, Solomons area).

★ Lt. (jg) George J. Seel, USNR, Maplewood, N. J.: As pilot of a fighter escorting a force of bombers over Kahili on 18 July 1943, he skillfully engaged and shot down two enemy fighters.



AIR MEDAL

★ Comdr. John Hulme, USN, Boston, Mass.: While commanding a torpedo bomber squadron from 5 June to 18 July 1943 in the Solomons area, he led his squadron in nine highly successful attacks against Jap positions at Munda and Vila.

★ Comdr. Robert A. Rosasco, USN, Pensacola, Fla.: On 18 June 1943 he led a flight of six planes in an attack on the enemy base at Nauru Island, flying for long periods entirely by instrument. Despite heavy antiaircraft



Official U. S. Navy photograph

HIT HIS TARGET: Lieut. Hubert T. Skelly, USNR, of North Miami Beach, Fla., wears the Air Medal which he won recently for dropping all his bombs on the target in the South Pacific, despite heavy anti-aircraft fire. The medal was presented by Capt. W. T. Rassieur, USN, right, commanding officer of the Naval Air Station, Patuxent River, Md.

Closing with one bomber as it came out of a dive, he sent it crashing into the sea.

★ Lts. (jg) William J. Barnard, USN, Norfolk, Va.; Paul D. Fitzgerald, USNR, Summit, Miss.; Dino Marati, USNR, Hollister, Calif.; Ensigns Dale W. Kelly, USNR, Spencer, Iowa, and Donald Osheim, USNR, Rosholt, S. Dak.: As pilots of patrol planes in the South Atlantic, they sighted and attacked a German submarine. The U-boat was severely damaged in the first attack and was destroyed when forced to the surface.

★ Lts. (jg) Frederick K. Blatchford, USNR, Michigan City, Ind.; Robert W. J. Cocks, USNR, Morenci, Ariz.; Monroe S. Doss, USNR, Seminole, Tex.; Robert C. Dye, USNR, Waterbury, Conn.; George E. Ford, USNR, Orosi, Calif.; Raymond P. Gahan, USNR, Blackwell, Okla.; Hugh M. Gray, USNR, Boston, Mass.; Richard R. Harding, USNR, Lexington, Mass.; William H. Kenah, Jr., USNR, Elizabeth, N. J.; Richard F. Kenney, USNR, Baltimore, Md.; Alvin D. Leach, USNR, Gentry, Ark.; Edward McCarty, USNR, Auburndale, Mass.; Johnny W. Patterson, USNR, Palestine, Tex.; Herbert W. Pickering, USNR, Portland, Me.; Robert J. Saggau, USNR, Denison, Iowa, and Edwin J. Weil, USNR, New York, N. Y.: As pilots of a bombing squadron in the Solomons area from 26 April to 28 July 1943, they daringly attacked Japanese shore installations and shipping, inflicting severe damage on the enemy. On 17 July they raided Jap shipping in the strongly defended waters off Kahili, sinking four destroyers and severely damaging a light cruiser.

★ Lt. (jg) John A. Cooke, USNR, Mill Valley, Calif.: While a fighter pilot attached to a marine aircraft group in the Solomons, he was a member of a four-plane division which took off on 16 June 1943 to intercept 20 dive-bombers, escorted by 30 Zeros, headed for Guadalcanal. He daringly attacked and shot down one bomber in flames.

★ Lt. (jg) Walter T. Fitzpatrick, Jr., USNR, White Plains, N. Y.: While flying in a four-plane patrol over New Georgia on 18 July 1943, he attacked an enemy air force which was preparing to strike at three of our destroyers. The Jap dive bombers were compelled

to break formation, jettison their bombs and flee. In the ensuing fight with escorting Zeros, he shot down two in flames.

★ Lt. (jg) Robert L. Gilbert, USNR, Farmville, Va.: Piloting a fighter plane in a four-plane division that engaged 35 Zeros in the Solomons area on 12 June 1943, he boldly pressed home the attack and destroyed three Zeros.

★ Lt. (jg) Terry H. Holberton, USNR, Hollywood, Calif.: While serving with a fighting squadron in the Solomons from 28 April to 11 July 1943, he took part in an interception mission against Jap planes which were threatening our shipping at Guadalcanal and shot down two of the seven planes destroyed by his division.

★ Lt. (jg) Fredrick W. M. Janney, USNR, Bryn Mawr, Pa.: As a torpedo bomber pilot in the Solomons, he took part on 1 March 1943 in a night attack on the Jap airdrome at Ballale Island and inflicted severe damage on enemy installations. In a daylight raid on 17 July on 10 ships in Kahili harbor, he contributed to the sinking of seven enemy vessels.

★ Lt. (jg) William J. Masoner, Jr., USNR, Riverside, Ill.: As a fighter pilot in the Solomons on 16 June 1943, he took part in a 14-plane interception flight at Guadalcanal. Entering a raging aerial battle 20,000 feet above the island, he shot down two Jap fighters.

★ Lt. (jg) Chester A. Parker, Jr., USN, Lakeland, Fla.: As member of a 16-plane fighter escort on 6 July 1943, he took off with a striking force of torpedo bombers and assisted in carrying out a successful raid on enemy shipping in the Vila-Munda area. Attacked from above and behind by a large number of Zeros, he shot down one of the planes.

★ Lt. (jg) Antonio T. Pimentel, Jr., USNR, San Francisco, Calif.: As pilot of a fighter plane attached to a Marine aircraft group in the Solomons, he took off in a flight of 14 fighters on 16 June 1943 to intercept a large number of enemy planes heading toward Guadalcanal. He made a determined attack on one Zero and shot it down.

★ Lt. (jg) Jack W. Thomas, USNR, Oilton, Okla.: Participating in a four-plane interception flight against a force of Japanese planes threatening our shipping, he dived into a formation of bombers and shot down two Zeros of the fighter escort (30 June 1943, over Rendova).



Fore and Aft (U.S. Maritime Service Training Station, Hoffman Island, N.Y.)

"Whatever do you boys find to talk about on that island, Victor?"



Official U. S. Navy photograph

DAMAGED JAP CARRIER: Lieut. Alder W. Hanson, USNR, Bellevue, Wash., is congratulated by Admiral William F. Halsey, USN, after presentation of the Air Medal. Lieutenant Hanson damaged a Jap carrier while piloting a dive bomber on 24 August 1942.

★ Lt. (jg) Norman E. Thurmon, USNR, Warrensburg, Mo.: As a dive-bomber pilot in the Solomons from 26 April to 26 July 1943, he participated in repeated daring attacks against hostile shipping, anti-aircraft positions and shore installations. He contributed materially to the sinking of one large Japanese seaplane tender and one destroyer and the damaging of one destroyer, one gunboat and one large cargo ship.

★ Lt. (jg) Arthur B. Wells, USNR, Los Angeles, Calif.: Serving with a fighting squadron in the Solomons of 15 July 1943, he led a four-plane division over Rendova during an encounter with a large Japanese air force. Suddenly surrounded by a dozen Zeros, he put up a tremendous battle despite minor injuries from a 20-mm. shell and shot down two enemy fighters.

★ Lt. (jg) Henry S. White, USNR, Matewan, W. Va.: As a fighter pilot in the Solomons from 28 April to 1 July 1943, he participated in a four-plane interception flight against Japanese planes threatening our shipping at Guadalcanal. Flying out of the sun in a dive, he sent one dive bomber and one Zero crashing into the sea.

★ Ens. Edward R. Hodgson, USNR, Summit, N. J.: Piloting a torpedo bomber on antisub patrol, he released his full load of depth charges directly ahead of a surfaced U-boat. Although the sub's gun crew sent up a withering barrage of anti-aircraft fire, he made two strafing runs and forced the submarine to submerge.

★ Ens. Ernest Ingold, II, USNR, Burlingame, Calif.: As pilot of a fighting squadron in the Solomons on 13 July 1943, he attacked a Japanese air force preparing to strike at three of our destroyers. The bombers were forced to break formation, and he shot down one Zero. Another Zero on his tail forced him down at sea in a dead-stick landing. He swam away from the sinking plane and was picked up by a friendly destroyer.

★ Ens. Richard J. Pomerantz, USNR, Fresno, Calif.: As a pilot of a fighting squadron escorting our bombers off Kahili on 18 July 1943, he was attacked by an overwhelming force of enemy fighters. In the ensuing battle he shot down two Zeros within a few minutes.

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MARCH 1944

NAVAL PERSONNEL

INFORMATION BULLETIN

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HOVERING HELLCAT

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★ Carl L. Winget, S2c, USNR, Palm-dale, Calif.: Wounded by a strafing attack during the Battle of the Coral Sea, 8 May 1942, he refused to leave his battle station and remained at his gun with utter disregard for his own safety. He contributed to the destruction of four Japanese planes during the attack on his ship.

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

★ Lt. Comdr. Richard D. Stephenson, USN, Stockbridge, Mass. (posthumously): Knowing that enemy aircraft of superior speed and armament were in the vicinity, he piloted his scouting plane from the USS *Philadelphia* seven miles inland during the invasion of Sicily on 10 July 1943 to spot long-range naval gunfire. Until his plane was shot down he courageously assisted in carrying out the mission assigned to him:

★ Lieut. Lewis D. Crockett, USNR, Nashville, Tenn.: During a coordinated attack on an enemy submarine in the Caribbean, he launched a demolition bombing attack with his plane and temporarily silenced the sub's guns. When an enemy bullet exploded in the starboard wing and fired the fuel line, he courageously continued action and later directed the attacks of other planes and repeatedly used his own plane to divert fire from assisting planes. (INFORMATION BULLETIN, Jan. 1944, "A Nazi U-Boat Fights Back.")

★ Lieut. Anthony Matuski, USNR, Setauket, N. Y. (missing in action): During a coordinated attack on an enemy submarine in the Caribbean, he bravely flew into intense and continuous fire to drop depth charges, damaging the sub on his first run so that she was unable to submerge. With his plane damaged and ablaze after the second run, he succeeded in getting a message through to his base before his plane crashed. (INFORMATION BULLETIN, Jan. 1944, "A Nazi U-Boat Fights Back.")

★ Lieut. George J. Pinto Jr., USNR, Salisbury, Md.: Participating in numerous spotting and reconnaissance missions as scouting plane pilot aboard the USS *Savannah* during the occupation of Sicily, he operated with great efficiency and penetrated deep into hostile territory despite heavy anti-aircraft and enemy air opposition.

★ Lieut. William E. Rowbotham, USN, Mesa, Ariz.: In the face of heavy fighter opposition and fierce anti-aircraft fire, he attacked an enemy task force of 16 destroyers of the newest type in the Solomon Islands area and took part in the first attack on Kahili airfield by torpedo bombers. He executed many missions against the Japanese from 1 February through 9 March and from 5 June through 25 July 1943.

★ Lieut. Francis R. Sanborn, USNR, Traverse City, Mich.: After taking part in two hazardous night missions, he led a division in a daylight attack on Japanese shipping in the Kahili area and damaged a destroyer. Five

days later he scored a direct hit on a seaplane tender. He executed combat missions in the area from 1 February through 25 July 1943.

★ Lt. (jg) Thomas J. Aylward, USNR, Highland Park, Ill.: As co-pilot of a patrol plane during an engagement with an enemy submarine in the Atlantic, he aided in pressing home an aggressive attack on the submarine even though he was painfully wounded in the head and leg by a direct hit, which also shattered the plane's starboard engine. He later aided in effecting a perfectly water landing.

★ Lt. (jg) Gerald F. Boyle, USNR, St. Louis, Mo.: During a Japanese dive-bombing raid on Rendova Island, he destroyed a bomber at close range and, discovering a Zero pursuing one of his comrades, blasted it out of the sky. As he pulled out of his engagement, he discovered another threatening Zero and destroyed it with a full deflection shot. From 21 June to 17 July 1943 he participated in 22 combat missions.

★ Lt. (jg) Carroll R. Campbell, USN, Los Angeles, Calif.: After leading a group of torpedo planes against an enemy corvette in Kahili harbor area, he spotted a hostile supply vessel and, turning back alone despite threat of enemy plane assault, delivered a mast-head-level attack which completely destroyed the loaded craft. From 26 April to 17 July 1943, he took part in numerous missions and completed three extremely hazardous operations.

★ Lt. (jg) John E. Dryden Jr., USNR, Kansas City, Mo.: As commander of a PBY, he took full advantage of cloud cover and brought the plane down in a quick attack on an enemy submarine sighted on the surface. Sweeping low to discharge depth bombs and rake the deck, he got the big plane safely out of range before a tremendous explosion lifted the submarine completely out of water, broke it amidships and completely destroyed it.

★ Lt. (jg) Theodore M. Holmes, USNR, Omak, Wash.: During a coordinated attack on an enemy submarine in the Caribbean, he pressed home a strafing run and three determined depth charge attacks in close proximity to the vessel and contributed materially to its ultimate destruction and capture

of the crew. (INFORMATION BULLETIN, Jan. 1944, "A Nazi U-Boat Fights Back.")

★ Lt. (jg) Malcolm J. Miller, USNR, Denver, Colo.: Under particularly adverse weather conditions in the Solomon Islands area on 20 July 1943, he made a successful masthead-level bombing attack on an enemy destroyer which caused the ship to explode and sink almost immediately. He also made many attacks on shore installations and shipping in the area.

★ Lt. (jg) Martin J. Stack, USNR, Seattle, Wash.: Executing many damaging missions, he flew the illuminating plane during a night attack on Kahili harbor with such skill that a following plane was able to locate, hit and damage a cargo vessel. On another occasion he fought off attacking Zeros with such skill that his turret gunner was enabled to shoot down one and possibly another. He served as air liaison officer during hazardous missions from 26 April through 17 July 1943.

★ Lt. (jg) William R. Weiss, USNR, Gainesville, Tex. (posthumously): Participating in 10 missions from Henderson Field, Guadalcanal, he contributed to the damage of enemy fortifications and the sinking of a destroyer. In a daylight strike against enemy shipping at Kahili he was attacked by three fighters, and, although his radio-man was mortally wounded and his plane riddled, made a safe landing. Later he executed three hazardous low-level runs with his plane under continual searchlight illumination.

★ Lt. (jg) William H. Winner, USNR, Topeka, Kan.: Sighting an enemy cargo vessel in Kahili harbor in the light of flares dropped by another plane, he succeeded in severely damaging the craft despite severe anti-aircraft defense. He executed many dangerous missions in the Solomons from 26 April through 17 July 1943.

★ Sidney William Quick, CAP, USN, Rhineland, Mo. (posthumously): By skillful participation in nine missions from Henderson Field, from 26 April to 5 June 1943, he contributed greatly to the damaging of Japanese fortifications, the sinking of an enemy destroyer and the damaging of another destroyer. In a daylight attack against enemy shipping he countered an attack by several Japanese fighters and enabled his gunner to shoot down one of them.

★ Joseph A. Swan, ACRM, USN, Marietta, Ohio; William J. Hoban, Jr., ARM2c, USN, Philadelphia, Pa.; James D. Parrent, ARM2c, USN, Bay City, Mich., and John S. Wall, ARM2c, USN, Jacksonville, Fla.: While serving as gunners aboard a scouting plane attached to a warship during the occupation of Sicily from 10 July to 19 July 1943, they participated in many dangerous spotting and reconnaissance missions which carried them deep into enemy territory and contributed immeasurably to the success of our air operations.

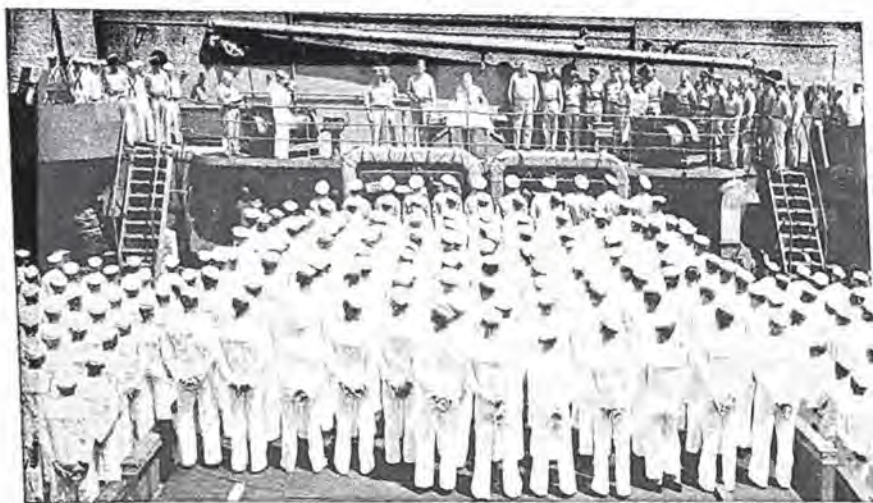
★ Edward J. True, ACRM, USN, South Ozone Park, N. Y.; Robert H. Maples, ARM1c, USN, Oakland, Calif.; Joseph L. Schradle, ARM1c, USN, Scio, Oreg., and Ralph J. Smith, ARM2c, USN, Castalia, Ohio: As gunners attached to a scouting plane aboard the USS *Savannah*, they participated in numerous



Dope Sheet (NAS, Norfolk)

"Wheels up landing again — eh?"

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Official U. S. Navy photograph

FREIGHTER CREW AWARDED UNIT CITATION: Standing at "parade rest" on the deck of the USS *Alchiba*, crewmen listen to Admiral William F. Halsey, USN, commander of the South Pacific Force, as he presents to them the Presidential Unit Citation. Hit by three torpedoes, the *Alchiba* was set afire and burned for five days, but her crew beached the ship, put out the fires and sailed her back to San Francisco (Information Bulletin, Sept. 1943).

★ Lt. (jg) Frank H. Bennett, USNR, San Francisco, Calif.: When his flight of three Wildcats was intercepted by 15 hostile Japanese bombers in the Solomon Islands 21 July 1943, he launched a courageous attack. In an accurately directed deflection burst he severely damaged one enemy plane and making a daring dive on another, sent it crashing into the sea with a withering blast of fire.

★ Lt. (jg) Cyrus G. Cary, USNR, Kelso, Wash. (missing in action): Against Japanese forces in the Solomon Islands from 27 April to 18 June 1942, he engaged in numerous air patrols, fighter sweeps and strafing raids. On 16 June, while on a mission to intercept an attack on our shipping, he unhesitatingly joined a raging air battle and sent one Japanese fighter crashing into the sea.

★ Lt. (jg) Raymond B. Cook, USNR, Palmyra, N. Y.: As a torpedo bomber pilot in the Solomon Islands from 26 April to 17 July 1943, he damaged at least two Japanese vessels and contributed materially to the sinking of five destroyers and three cargo vessels and to the damaging of one light cruiser and three destroyers.

★ Lt. (jg) Edugardo M. Coppola, USNR, Brooklyn, N. Y.: While flying to intercept an intended Japanese attack on shipping at Guadalcanal, 16 June 1943, he joined action in a raging air battle. Maneuvering to obtain striking position, he sent at least one Japanese dive-bomber crashing into the sea.

★ Lt. (jg) Vernon W. Gaston, USNR, Los Angeles, Calif.: In an action against two large flights of Zeros and dive bombers over the Solomons, he accounted for one of seven planes destroyed by his division. On 9 July 1943 his six-plane flight engaged approximately 45 Zeros over Rendova Island and he assisted two comrades in shooting down two of the hostile aircraft.

★ Lt. (jg) Travis H. Heard, USNR, West Monroe, La. (missing in action):

When his four-plane formation intercepted a large force of enemy bombers, 4 July 1943, he attacked and shot down a Japanese bomber intent upon attacking our shipping.

★ Lt. (jg) Jack C. Hill, USNR, Silver City, N. Mex.: On 18 July 1943, he took part in a hazardous daylight raid on hostile ships in strongly defended Kahili harbor. He boldly pressed home his attack, thereby contributing materially to the success of the mission. He also took part in numerous missions against shore installations, airfields and shipping despite heavy opposition.

★ Lt. (jg) Edwin E. Hughes, USNR, New Smyrna Beach, Fla.: In a night flight in Faisi harbor, he completed his run despite continual illumination by enemy searchlights. He also executed extremely hazardous missions against strongly fortified installations.

★ Lt. (jg) Charles Jackson, USNR, Cleveland, Ohio (posthumously): In a period of intense activity from 21 June to 18 July 1943 in the Solomon Islands, he engaged in 26 actions, including the initial attempt of Wildcat fighters to serve as escorts to Bougainville. On 18 July he destroyed one Zero in a brilliant attack against enemy planes.

★ Lt. (jg) Thomas C. Johnson, USNR, Durham, N. C. (missing in action): He led his flight on 30 combat missions for a total of 188 flying hours between 21 June and 17 July 1943 in the Solomon Islands. On 30 July he launched an attack against a large formation of Zeros and destroyed one. Later the same day his flight intercepted a force of enemy bombers and, together with his wingman, he sent one crashing into the sea.

★ Lt. (jg) Tom W. Lindsey, USNR, Willacoochee, Ga.: In an operation over Rendova Island, 30 June 1943, he dived to attack a formation of enemy twin-engined bombers with his four-plane flight, effectively caught one of the bombers on his first pass and sent it crashing in flames. He also engaged in 27 other combat assignments.

★ Lt. (jg) John W. Ramsey, USNR, Gridley, Calif.: On 16 June 1943 his four-plane division of fighters intercepted two large flights of Zeros covering dive bombers. In the ensuing action, he accounted for two of seven Zeros destroyed by his flight. He directed his division in numerous patrols, task-force covers, sweeps and strafing raids from 28 April to 8 July 1943.

★ Lt. (jg) Charles H. Schild, USNR, Monroeville, Ohio.: When his four-plane division intercepted a formation of 20 enemy dive bombers and 30 Zeros, 16 June 1943, he sent two of them crashing in flames. On 21 June 1943, near Savo Island, he destroyed a Japanese twin-engine bomber in a daring run. On many other occasions he accomplished difficult missions.

★ Lt. (jg) George H. Smith, USNR, Elmhurst, Ill.: When his division of fighters intercepted a large force of Japanese bombers and Zeros west of Rendova Island, he pursued a bomber until he brought it down despite overwhelming odds. Again, on 4 July 1943, his four-plane division attacked a larger Japanese force and he sent another Japanese bomber crashing in flames.

★ Lt. (jg) Robert J. Snell, USNR, Bonita, Miss. (missing in action): Undeterred by severe enemy opposition, he took part in six bombing missions against Japanese positions from 26 April to 5 June 1943. On June 5 he contributed materially to the sinking of one Japanese destroyer and the damaging of another before being shot down.

★ Lt. (jg) James L. Sweetser, USNR, Portland, Me. (missing in action): Taking part in a night flight on 19 May 1943 he completed a low-level run despite constant searchlight illumination. In numerous and hazardous operations against the Japanese, he contributed materially in seriously damaging enemy shore installations.

★ Lt. (jg) Frederic P. Vanderhoof, USNR, Olympia, Wash.: When his four-plane division sighted enemy dive bombers over Rendova Island, he courageously followed them down, attacked as they skimmed over the water and sent one enemy plane crashing into a cove. From 21 June to 17 July 1943 he participated in 32 actions against the Japanese in the Solomons area.

★ Lt. (jg) Charles G. Wall, USNR, McComb, Miss.: On 30 June 1943, near Rendova Island, his four-plane division intercepted a formation of enemy bombers covered by Zeros. Surrounded by hostile planes, he fought valiantly, destroying one Zero. He also engaged in 25 other combat missions.

★ Lt. (jg) Raymond C. Wicklander, USNR, Washburn, N. Dak.: On 18 July 1943, operating at maximum range for his plane, he participated in a raid on enemy ships in Kahili harbor and contributed much to the success of this dangerous mission. He also took part in numerous raids, strafing attacks and sweeps on enemy shipping.

★ Ens. Charles L. Arthur, USNR, Up-land, Calif.: He skillfully shot down one Zero before being forced to make an emergency landing on 21 July 1943 when his flight of three Wildcats intercepted 12 Zeros covering 15 Japanese

dive bombers over Blanche Channel. He also participated in many other combat missions.

★ **Ens. George H. Davidson, USNR**, Lake Como, Fla.: In the Solomon Islands from 21 June to 18 July 1943, he engaged in 24 combat missions. On 15 July he and his division of fighters attacked eight enemy bombers protected by 25 Zeros. In effecting a violent right turn to avoid an attacking Zero, he observed another Zero swinging in to attack. By skillful maneuvering he released a burst of tracers which destroyed the fighter.

★ **Ens. James E. Foy, USNR**, Atlanta, Ga.: Over Rendova Island, 1 July 1943, he intercepted an intended dive-bombing attack on our installations and despite determined passes by enemy fighters sent one bomber spinning into the sea. On 18 July, while on escort to Kahili, his flight engaged a formation of enemy planes and he destroyed a Zero.

★ **Ens. Herman Lyons, USNR**, St. Elmo, Ill.: When his four-plane division of fighters intercepted enemy dive bombers over Rendova Island, he destroyed one bomber with an aggressive attack. Between 21 June and 17 July 1943, he engaged in 33 combat missions, flying a total of 108 hours.

★ **Ens. John P. Pierson, USNR**, Stamford, Conn.: When enemy fighters attempted interception of our striking force off Kahili 18 July 1943, he promptly maneuvered for position and, giving his section leader extremely effective support, shot down one Zero.

★ **Ens. Jack H. Reddinger, USNR**, Jackson, Mich. (missing in action): Intercepting a large formation of Japanese bombers over Munda, he promptly engaged the enemy. With Zeros closing in on all sides, he downed two of them. He exhibited gallant fighting spirit through this and numerous other actions.

★ **Ens. Charles S. Williams, USNR**, Auburn, N. Y.: Making a high side approach on a Zero covering a dive-bomb raid on Rendova, he destroyed the enemy plane. He also took part in 27 combat missions between 21 June and 17 July 1943 in the Solomons area.

★ **Ruel W. Davidson, Aviation Cadet, USNR**, Birmingham, Ala.: During a low-altitude daylight bombing attack on Japanese ships in Kiska harbor, and in the face of intense antiaircraft fire and continuous attack by six Zeros, he performed his duties with courage and determination, thereby contributing to the severe damaging of two enemy vessels and the probable destruction of two Zeros (8 August 1942).

★ **John R. Carlin, ACMM, USN**, Sparrows Point, Md.; **Ray F. Bradley,**

AOM1c, USN, Alabama City, Ala.; **Vito A. Capite, AOM1c, USNR**, Worcester, Mass.; **Roy M. Fortner, ARM1c, USN**, Copperhill, Tenn.; **William W. Herlihy, ARM1c, USN**, Westboro, Mass.; **Edward O. Jones, ARM1c, USN**, Atlanta, Ga.; **Pierce J. Lyons, AMM1c, USN**, New York, N. Y.; **Hans J. Oleson, AMM1c, USNR**, Gayville, S. Dak.; **William A. Perisho, AMM1c, USNR**, Zearing, Iowa; **Leo L. Mahoney, AMM2c, USNR**, Aurora, Ill.; **James T. Freund, AMM3c, USN**, Penn Run, Pa.; **Everett M. Hunt, S1c, USN**, Norfolk, Va.; and **Walter A. Kmiecik, S1c, USN**, Lorain, Ohio: When an enemy sub was sighted, these crewmen of patrol planes in the South Atlantic carried out their duties with thoroughness and efficiency. Expert marksmanship strafed the U-boat and prevented the enemy crew from manning their guns, thereby helping destroy the craft.

★ **William H. Jackson, ACMM, USN**, Endicott, N. Y.; **Harry E. Porter, AMM1c, USN**, Savannah, Ga.; **Orville P. Walker, AMM1c, USN**, Fullerton, Ky.; **William F. Land, ARM2c, USNR**, Miami, Fla.; and **John F. Connelly, AMM3c, USN**, Woodside, N. Y.: When a U-boat was sighted on the surface about eight miles away, these crewmen of a PBY patrol plane rendered valuable assistance to the plane commander in launching a surprise attack. The sub's deck was raked with cannon fire and depth charges broke it amidships, leaving oil and wreckage scattered across the sea.

★ **Richard Bass, AMM1c, USN**, Stan-
tonsburg, N. C.: Manning a gun when his patrol plane sighted a U-boat, he strafed the sub and prevented the enemy crew from manning their guns, thereby contributing to the eventual destruction of the ship.

★ **Martin J. Battuello, AMM1c, USN**, Calumet, Mich.: When his plane was attacked by six enemy fighters over Kiska harbor, he cleverly feigned an injury and lured one of the Jap planes into close range. He then poured a stream of lead into the Zero which fell to probable destruction (8 Aug. 1942).

★ **Anthony W. Brunetti, ARM1c, USN**, Bridgeport, Conn.: As radioman-gunner of a dive bomber in the Solomons from 26 April to 28 July 1943, he carried out his duties with extreme skill and courage. On 17 July he took part in a raid on Japanese ships in the waters off Kahili and shot down one Zero, thereby contributing to the success of his squadron in sinking four destroyers and severely damaging a light cruiser.

★ **Lyle H. Fast, ARM1c, USN**, Montrose, Calif.: As radio-gunner of a dive bomber in action against Japanese forces in the Solomons from 28 September to 5 November 1942, he participated in numerous missions. On 8 October he destroyed an enemy float plane. Later he effectively strafed hostile positions, enabling our ground forces to repulse a threatened attack.

★ **Chester F. Heilig, PhoM1c, USN**, Minneapolis, Minn.: As photographer in a Ventura bomber in the Aleutians from 24 June to 15 August 1943, he took part in 16 special flights to obtain low-level photographs of landing beaches and enemy installations. Although his plane was damaged twice by Jap gunfire, he persisted in his photographic runs, climaxing six of them

with low-altitude bombing attacks upon the positions photographed.

★ **James A. Welch, ARM1c, USNR**, Ramhurst, Ga.: As a crew member of a bomber attached to the Atlantic Fleet, he sustained painful shrapnel wounds in the head during an engagement with a U-boat. He continued to carry out his duties in the smoke-filled radio compartment while his crippled plane pressed home an aggressive attack with depth charges. By transmitting emergency signals when his plane was forced to make a water landing, he contributed to the subsequent rescue of the surviving crew members.



J. A. Welch,
ARM1c

★ **William A. Combs, ARM2c, USN**, Belhaven, N. C.: When his torpedo bomber was attacked by seven Zeros during an unescorted flight over Rendova on 30 June 1943, he shot down one with an accurate burst of fire. Later, he probably destroyed a bomber which was returning from an attack upon our shipping in Blanche Channel.

★ **Thomas Panno, ARM2c, USN**, Linden, N. J.: During a period of intense activity against the Japanese from 28 September through 5 November 1942, he rendered invaluable service to his pilot as radio-gunner of a dive bomber. During numerous missions he helped sink several Japanese warships and transports. On 19 October he aided materially in destroying a hostile float plane as it attempted to intercept our bombing attack on Jap installations.

★ **Bernard G. Robinson, AMM2c, USN**, Redwood, Calif. (posthumously): As turret gunner in a torpedo plane during a strike against Japanese shipping in Kahili harbor, he opened fire on a Zero and destroyed it. When his plane was subsequently attacked by three Zeros, he succeeded in scoring a direct hit which sent one into the sea.

★ **Robert R. Seneker, ARM2c, USN**, Los Angeles, Calif.: As radioman-gunner in a bomber from 26 April to 28 July 1943, he helped inflict serious damage on Japanese shore installations and shipping. During a raid against enemy vessels off Kahili on 17 July, he shot down one Zero, thereby contributing to the success of his squadron in



R. R. Seneker,
ARM2c

sinking four destroyers and in severely damaging a light cruiser.

★ **Anthony Albert, ARM3c, USNR**, Gloucester, Mass.: As gunner of a PBY patrol plane, he rendered valuable assistance to the pilot in launching a surprise attack on a submarine. The sub's deck was raked with cannon fire, and depth charges raised it completely out of the water and broke it amidships. Oil and wreckage proved the U-boat had been destroyed.



Muzzle Blast (Air Gunners School,
Hollywood, Fla.)

"Part your hair in the middle?"

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APRIL 1944

NAVAL PERSONNEL

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stop the flow of fuel oil which was in danger of igniting. Under his efficient direction, the crew was evacuated safely.

★James F. Sigel, CTM, USN, New York, N. Y.: When his vessel was attacked by hostile planes in the South Pacific, 21 August 1943, he observed that shells had pierced the ammunition ready room. He unhesitatingly entered the area and removed several cans in order to dispose of burning ammunition.

★Roy C. Stamler, SF1c, USN, Carrollton, Ky.: As a member of a repair party in the USS *Perkins* off New Guinea, 20 October 1943, he gallantly disregarded his own wounded condition to remove other men to the battle dressing station, submitting to treatment for himself only after all other wounded had been cared for.

★Alvin K. Anderson, BM2c, USCG, Chicago, Ill.: As coxswain of a scout boat during the assault on Sicily, he proceeded through enemy-mined waters to an assigned position offshore and maintained his position for three hours under sustained enemy fire to assist in guiding assault waves to the heavily defended beach.

★Francis Carpenter, S1c, USNR, New York, N. Y.: Familiar with Sicily through previous visits, he volunteered to land with the first assault waves. By questioning residents, he ascertained the location of a mine field and captured a prisoner, although unarmed himself. He also obtained valuable information concerning terrain of the beach.



★Comdr. Charles L. Westhofen, USN, Milwaukee, Wis.: Piloting a bomber in action against a hostile submarine in the Atlantic, he flew dangerously low over the target and enabled his gunners to achieve maximum striking power. Despite damage to his craft, he maintained a course of action which resulted in destruction of the submarine.

★Lt. Comdr. John Eldridge Jr., USN, Buckingham, Va. (posthumously): Despite continual enemy shelling of mud-covered Henderson Field, he effected an extremely difficult take-off 25 October 1942 to participate in vital bombing of approaching Japanese surface forces. In the ensuing engagement he assisted his four-plane group in destroying a Japanese cruiser and in damaging another warship.

★Lt. Comdr. Thomas W. McKnight, USNR, Beverly, Mass.: Determining that the removal of a 500-pound live bomb inadvertently released in the closed bomb bay of a plane would be too dangerous, he personally piloted the plane seaward. Finding the tail fins had further wedged the bomb in the plane structure, he rolled the plane violently, breaking the hold and clearing the bomb, which exploded on impact with the water.

★Lieut. Charles C. Aikins, USNR, Kansas City, Mo.; Lieut. Delwin A.



Official U. S. Navy photograph
HE SAVED HIS SHIP: Comdr. Ira E. Hobbs, USN, of Marlow, Okla., won the Silver Star Medal recently for skillfully maneuvering his warship in the face of repeated smashing attacks by Jap planes near the Santa Cruz Islands. When his ship was severely damaged, he continued to fight against overwhelming odds and eventually succeeded in saving his vessel and her personnel.

Liane, USN, Lisbon, N. Dak.; Lieut. David F. Weaver, USNR, Kansas City, Kans., and Ens. Morris G. Pickard, USNR, Greensboro, N. C.: Operating with great efficiency as scouting plane pilots from a U. S. cruiser during the invasion of Sicily, they made numerous reconnaissance and spotting flights deep into hostile territory despite heavy anti-aircraft and fighter opposition.

★Lieut. Burton F. J. Albrecht, USNR, Mesa, Ariz.: On a search mission in the Solomons he contacted and tracked a convoy of nine enemy ships and launched an attack, scoring direct hits on three of the vessels and leaving one listing and in flames.

★Lieut. William R. Austin, USNR, Yakima, Wash.; Lieut. Edward H. Lawry, USNR, Fairfield, Me.; Lieut. John E. Mishanec, USNR, Olean, N. Y.; Lieut. Elmo L. Moss, USNR, Hannibal, Mo., and Lt. (jg) Stanley G. Fierstein, USNR, Houston, Tex.: As scouting plane pilots from the USS *Philadelphia* during the invasion of Sicily, they engaged in numerous spotting and reconnaissance missions deep into hostile territory despite heavy anti-aircraft and fighter opposition.

★Lieut. Robert J. Clinton, USNR, Staten Island, N. Y.: In response to a visual message from an Australian gunboat which had spotted a Japanese submarine, he tracked down the hostile craft and forced her to the surface with depth charges. In a low-altitude strafing attack his own guns jammed and he stood by, tracking the submarine, until additional aircraft arrived and destroyed the sub.

★Lieut. Harlan J. Coit, USNR, Montclair, N. J.: Participating in many missions in the Solomons area from September to November 1943, he scored one direct hit and several near misses on a light cruiser and a probable hit on a destroyer. On 25 October, after an extremely difficult take-

off from mud-covered Henderson Field, he assisted in silencing enemy artillery and strafing important Japanese ground positions.

★Lieut. Morris R. Doughty, USN, Cape Girardeau, Mo.: He scored two direct hits on a Japanese light cruiser, several near misses on a heavy cruiser, and a probable hit on a destroyer during a period of intense activity in the Solomons from September to November 1942. On 25 October, after a difficult take-off from muddy Henderson Field, he silenced Japanese artillery and strafed important ground positions.

★Lieut. John J. Frazier, USNR, Bridgeton, N. J., and Lieut. John C. Osborn Jr., USNR, Sheboygan, Wis.: As scouting plane pilots from the USS *Savannah*, during the assault on Sicily, they participated in numerous spotting and reconnaissance missions deep into hostile territory despite intense anti-aircraft and fighter opposition.

★Lieut. Cyrenus L. Gillette, USNR, Detroit, Mich.: Despite severe electrical storms, poor visibility and withering anti-aircraft fire, he daringly pressed home an attack on a Japanese task force of five destroyers. He scored one hit and dispersed the other units. On 25 January 1943, acting as spotter, he contributed to the success of our forces in shelling Vila Plantation installations.

★Lieut. Robert J. Mohler, USNR, North Canton, Ohio: Scoring direct hits and near misses on a light cruiser, a destroyer and a heavy cruiser, 15 October 1942 in the Solomons area, he also assisted in sinking four and possibly five Japanese transports despite severe fighter opposition and anti-aircraft. He participated in numerous attacks on enemy surface vessels during a period of intense activity.

★Lieut. Harold N. Murphy, USNR, Brookline, Mass.: He scored three direct hits and probably two others on Japanese destroyers during vital bombing raids in the Solomons area. On 15 October 1942 he assisted in



Hoist (NTS, San Diego)

"Is it true that nurses sometimes fall in love with their patients?"



Official U. S. Coast Guard photograph

COMBAT ARTIST DECORATED: For gallantry in action in the Sicilian and Salerno invasions, William G. Lawrence, CBM, USCGR, of Red Bank, N. J., receives the Silver Star Medal from Vice Admiral R. R. Waesche, commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard. Lawrence, a nationally known artist, was in charge of a specially fitted landing boat during the invasions, and his skill and perseverance were instrumental in salvaging about 100 beached and stranded invasion craft.

sinking four, and possibly five ships of a Japanese invasion fleet in the vicinity of Guadalcanal.

★ Lieut. William P. Tanner Jr., USNR, San Pedro, Calif.: In action against eight or more enemy fighters over the Bay of Biscay, 1 August 1943, he enabled his gunners to inflict serious damage and force one enemy plane to land. With his engine controls shattered and his plane ablaze, he made a crash landing in the sea and helped three of his crew abandon the craft.

★ Lieut. Chester V. Zalewski, USNR, Dickson City, Pa.: In numerous vital bombing raids on Japanese shipping in the Solomons area from September to November 1942, he scored direct hits and near misses on two heavy cruisers and a destroyer and a probable hit on a light cruiser. On 15 October he assisted in destroying four, and possibly five, ships of a Japanese convoy.

★ Lt. (jg) Thomas B. Adams, USNR, Detroit, Mich.: Flying low over strongly defended enemy harbors, he completed three hazardous night flights which contributed to the sinking of four Japanese destroyers and two auxiliary vessels and to the damaging of a light cruiser and two destroyers. He also repelled two attacks by Zeros, destroying one, during landing operations at Munda and Rendova.

★ Lt. (jg) Billy P. Burch, USNR, Bruceton, Tenn.: When his four-plane division intercepted a hostile Japanese air force attempting to attack our positions on New Georgia on 30 June 1943, he tailed two Zeros and shot them both down in flames. Finding another Zero soon afterwards, he held it in his fire until the enemy plane disintegrated in mid-air.

★ Lt. (jg) Francis O. Burton, USNR, Billings, Mont.: He contacted and successfully tracked an enemy cruiser in the Solomons area and, making a low-altitude run, scored two direct hits which caused a terrific explosion and serious damage to the enemy.

★ Lt. (jg) Norman D. Champlin, USNR, Plainwell, Mich.: Participating in a raid on four hostile warships in Bougainville Straits, 22 July 1943, he scored a direct hit which contributed to the sinking of a tender, despite tremendous antiaircraft fire and fierce fighter opposition.

★ Lt. (jg) John B. Haskett, USNR, Alhambra, Calif.: Participating in numerous long-range search missions, bombing raids and patrols, he inflicted severe damage on the enemy despite adverse weather and heavy opposition.

★ Lt. (jg) William C. Hirsch, USNR, Cincinnati, Ohio: Completing two dangerous operations in Kahili and Faisi harbors despite illumination and close-range antiaircraft fire, he aided materially in the destruction of two hostile vessels. Although intercepted by a hostile air force, he also contributed to the sinking of five Japanese destroyers and three cargo vessels and to the damaging of one light cruiser and two destroyers.

★ Lt. (jg) Alfred F. Jacobson, USNR, Brookfield, Ill. (missing in action): Pressing home a vigorous attack against enemy shipping in Kahili harbor 17 July 1943, he contributed to the sinking of seven Japanese vessels and the destruction of 49 planes despite tremendous antiaircraft and fighter opposition.

★ Lt. (jg) Winfield H. Junk, USNR, St. Joseph, Mo.: Taking part in numerous bombing attacks in the Solomons area, he made a low-altitude attack on a Japanese cargo ship and scored a direct hit which sank it. He also contributed to the sinking of a seaplane tender in an attack against the tender and four enemy warships. He made other runs against enemy shipping and troop positions, and carried out hazardous night minelaying operations.

★ Lt. (jg) Knute W. D. Lee, USNR, Spring Grove, Minn.: Flying to the assistance of one of his squadron members who had damaged a Japanese submarine, he sighted the craft proceeding at impaired speed in the South Pacific Area. He made two low runs despite persistent antiaircraft fire and released depth charges which sank the crippled vessel.

★ Lt. (jg) Murray C. McKinney, USNR, Sulphur Springs, Tex. (posthumously): During action against Japanese forces off Kahili, 7 July 1943, he scored a direct hit with a 2,000-pound bomb and probably sank a Japanese destroyer. Although an enemy plane subsequently killed his turret gunner and shot away his radio and controls, he flew 300 miles to his home base and crash landed in the sea.

★ Lt. (jg) Joe D. Mitchell, USNR, Davidson, Okla.: In a vigorous glide-bombing attack against Japanese ships in Kahili harbor he fought his way through a gauntlet of enemy fighters and scored a direct hit on an enemy destroyer before he himself was shot



Official U. S. Navy photograph

RESCUED FIVE MEN: Ens. Donald E. McGrath, USNR, of San Jose, Calif., has received the Silver Star Medal for helping rescue five injured crewmen when his destroyer was torpedoed in the Solomons on 6 October 1943. Disregarding his own painful injury, he risked his life to remain in the flooded compartment and dived repeatedly through fuel oil and sea water to rescue the plotting room crew. After abandoning ship, he swam part of the way to the rescue ship in order to leave room for others more seriously wounded.

down. He participated in numerous other missions against Munda, Vila and Nususongo.

★ Lt. (jg) Thomas H. Moore, USNR, Lake View, S. C.: On 22 July 1943 his flight of fighters encountered a large force of Japanese planes. He destroyed one and assisted in the rout of the others. On another occasion, over Rendova Island, he shot down two Zeros.

★ Lt. (jg) Gerald A. Robbins, USNR, Lakemills, Wis. (missing in action): Attacking enemy ships in Kahili harbor, 17 July 1943, he contributed materially to the sinking of three Japanese warships and four auxiliaries and the shooting down of 49 aircraft.

★ Lt. (jg) William J. Slone, USNR, Alexandria, Ind.: Serving as liaison officer during landing operations at Rendova and Munda, he courageously repelled two attacks by Zeros, although unescorted by fighter plane protection, and succeeded in blasting one Zero from the sky. He successfully completed three night flights, contributing to the destruction of four hostile destroyers and four other vessels and the damaging of a light cruiser and two destroyers.

★ Lt. (jg) John C. C. Symmes, USNR, Lake Wales, Fla.: During an engagement with a large formation of enemy bombers and fighters over Rendova Island, 30 July 1943, he shot down two Zeros. On other occasions he shot down three more Zeros, thus averting attacks on our shipping and ground installations.

★ Lt. (jg) Melvin L. Tegge, USNR, Schwertner, Tex.: Subjected to illumination and close-range antiaircraft fire, he completed two hazardous flights which aided in the destruction of two hostile vessels in Kahili and Faisi harbors. Despite interception

by hostile planes, he attacked and contributed to the sinking of five Japanese destroyers, three cargo vessels and the damaging of one light cruiser and two destroyers.

★ **Ens. Norman W. Hutchings Jr.**, USNR, Mobile, Ala.: Encountering a large flight of hostile planes while patrolling over New Georgia, 25 July 1943, he expertly shot down three planes before being forced to effect an emergency landing.

★ **Carl Eugene Adams**, AOM1c, USN, Roberts, Ky.; **Edward N. Desjardines**, AMM2c, USN, Fall River, Mass.; **Irv-ing B. Feinberg**, PhoM2c, USN, Kearney, N. J.; **Edward Johnson**, ARM2c, USNR, Brockton, Mass.; **George L. Marks**, AMM2c, USN, King-ston, N. Y.; **Americo Orsi**, AMM2c, USN, Trenton, N. J.; and **Paul E. Yates**, ARM2c, USN, West Millgrove, Ohio: As crew members of a Navy patrol plane protecting a convoy in Northwest African waters, 12 July 1943, when two enemy bombers threat-ened our vessels, each handled his assigned duty rapidly and accurately and assisted in breaking up every at-tempt of the enemy to reach his ob-jective.

Gold Star in Lieu of Second



NAVY AND MARINE CORPS MEDAL

★ **Carpenter Jack F. Martin**, USNR, Los Angeles, Calif.: As a volunteer diver during salvage work at Pearl Harbor, he made dives totalling more than 100 hours under water despite extremely hazardous conditions inside wrecked hulls. He contributed largely to the success of the salvage work.

★ **Carpenter William S. Thomas**, USN, Fort Kent, Me.: During salvage op-erations at Pearl Harbor he made numerous dives totalling more than 100 hours under water despite ex-tremely hazardous conditions inside submerged hulls. He contributed in



Official U. S. Navy photograph
FLYER RECEIVES TWO CITATIONS:
Comdr. Charles L. Crommelin, USN, recently received the Distinguished Flying Cross and a Gold Star in lieu of a second medal, from his father-in-law, Rear Admiral Elliott Buckmaster, USN, commandant of the Naval Air Center, San Diego. He won the first decoration for leading fighters in support of bombers raiding Marcus Island, and the second for directing an air group protecting forces occu-pying the Gilbert Islands.

large measure to the success of the operations.



NAVY AND MARINE CORPS MEDAL

★ **Capt. Thomas L. Wattles**, USN, Alexandria, Va.: As commander of a destroyer squadron in the attack on Sicily, he directed the hazardous screening operations of his force de-spite persistent and determined air bombardment and submarine attacks. His command contributed greatly to the protection of the transport area.

★ **Comdr. Joseph W. Leverton**, USN, Washington, D. C.: When the stern of the USS *Wasmuth* was broken off by a storm, 27 December 1942, he made a prompt and accurate appraisal of damage and launched immediate and effective control measures which enabled his ship to remain afloat until the crew had been transferred to a rescue ship more than four hours later.

★ **Lt. Comdr. Howard E. Haynes**, USN, San Diego, Calif.: As officer-in-charge of diving operations incident to salvage at Pearl Harbor, he skillfully directed extensive and hazardous programs often involving dangerous personal experimental investigations. His tireless efforts in procuring and develop-ing diving equipment contributed in large measure to the success of the operations.

★ **Lieut. John D. Cartano**, USNR, Seattle, Wash.: Effecting the rescue of survivors of a torpedoed transport off Guadalcanal 13 August 1943, he unhesitatingly placed his small craft in close proximity to the flaming area of the stricken vessel and efficiently organized search, rescue and first aid, saving the lives of approximately 35 men, many of whom were wounded.

★ **Lieut. James S. Clarkson**, USN, Long Beach, Calif. (posthumously): As a volunteer diver engaged in Pearl Harbor salvage operations, he unhesi-tatingly made many hazardous dives in essential underwater work and by his tireless efforts contributed greatly to the success of the salvage opera-tions.

★ **Lieut. John G. Gaston II**, USNR, South Orange, N. J.: Observing a woman caught in the strong current off Bay Head, N. J., 28 August 1943, he plunged into the surf with a rub-ber mattress and swam to her rescue. Although she was four times dis-lodged by the heavy surf, he eventu-ally brought her to safety.

★ **Lieut. Thomas R. Turino** (MC), USNR, Brooklyn, N. Y. (missing in ac-tion): As senior medical officer in the LST-342 during a Japanese bomb-ing raid at Rendova 2 July 1943, he worked almost continuously for three days administering to more than 200 wounded placed aboard his ship as an emergency measure. He performed many difficult operations with expert professional skill.

★ **Lt. (jg) George W. Dunn**, USN, Louisville, Ga. (posthumously): Dur-ing a fire in the BOQ at his base, NOB, Argentia, Newfoundland, he

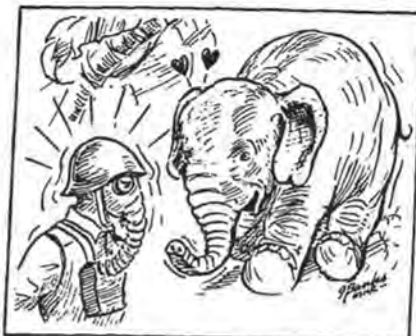
seized an extinguisher and entered several rooms to fight flames and make certain that occupants were evacuated. Although twice warned, he persisted until a ceiling collapsed and trapped him within the inferno (12 January 1943).

★ **Lt. (jg) Roman G. Manthei**, USN, Plymouth, Wis.: In charge of or-dnance salvage on damaged ships at Pearl Harbor, he skillfully directed the dangerous work and was responsi-ble for the recovery of valuable quan-tities of material despite the presence of toxic gases, water, fuel oil and debris in the compartments.

★ **Ens. Robert M. Hendon**, USN, Indianola, Miss.: As leading diver and later officer supervisor of salvage ac-tivities at Pearl Harbor, he skillfully supervised assignments of enlisted men and personally participated in dives totalling more than 200 hours under water despite hazardous condi-tions within submerged hulls.

★ **Chief Gunner, Glen Frazier**, USN, Marines, N. C.; **Alfred Eugene Daniel**, CGM, USN, Murphysboro, Ill.; **Peter C. Devries**, CMM, USN, Lodi, N. J.; **Christian R. Peters**, CM, USNR, Los Angeles, Calif.; **Morris C. Bestul**, CSF, USN, Rosholt, Wis.; **Alfred J. Katzenstein**, CEM, USN, Los Angeles, Calif.; **Harold F. Hendricks**, CSF, USN, Liberty, S. C.; **Delbert L. West**, BM1c, USN, Tryon, Neb.; **Nelson H. Dover**, GM1c, USN, Colfax, Ill.; **Louis J. Pacitti**, GM1c, USN, Taylor Springs, Ill.; **John J. Roche Jr.**, GM1c, USN, Bellerose, N. Y.; **Glenn L. Palmquist**, CM1c, USN, Lindsborg, Kans.; **Walter Zakulec**, SF1c, USN, Burgettstown, Pa.; **Thomas Henry Cary**, SF1c, USN, Bellingham, Wash.; **Pryor S. Bennett**, CM1c, USN, Negaunee, Mich.; **Carl W. Dubois**, SF1c, USN, Middletown, N. Y.; **Kenneth F. Tinsley**, MS1c, USNR, Los Angeles, Calif.; **Harry A. Sayles**, SF1c, USN, Fruita, Col.; **James R. Mahan**, MM1c, USNR, Flushing, N. Y.; **Hugh D. Lewis**, CM1c, USN, Ochloch-nee, Ga.; **James W. Green**, GM2c, USN, Birmingham, Mich., and **Frank R. Bush**, SF2c, USNR, Seattle, Wash.: They contributed materially to the success of Pearl Harbor salvage op-erations by volunteering to make num-erous dives totalling more than 100 hours underwater each, despite the extremely hazardous conditions within submerged hulls.

★ **Carpenter, Earl S. Blackburn**, USN, Washington, N. C.: As a volunteer engaged in diving operations during Pearl Harbor salvage, he made numer-ous dives totalling more than 100



St. Louis Blues (NAS, St. Louis, Mo.)

hours underwater despite extremely hazardous conditions within submerged hulls.

★ Boatswain, Ralph E. Fowler, USN, Los Angeles, Calif.: A volunteer diver engaged in Pearl Harbor salvage work, he unhesitatingly made numerous dives totalling more than 100 hours under water despite extremely hazardous conditions within submerged hulls.

★ Carpenter, William J. King, (CEC), USNR, Everett, Mass.: With expert technical skill and splendid initiative, he organized and directed the difficult ship repair work at an advanced base despite the serious disadvantage of lack of adequate equipment and material.

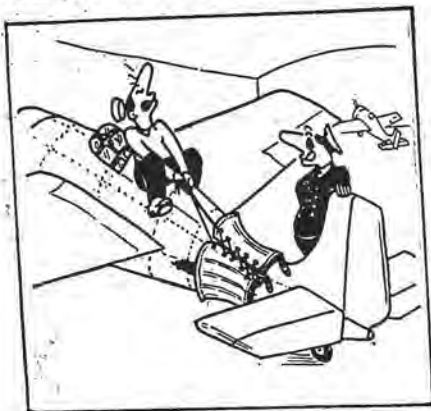
★ Gunner, William G. Knoepfel, USN, Everett, Wash.: Despite toxic concentrations of poisonous gases, fuel oil and debris in compartments of vessels salvaged at Pearl Harbor, he participated in extensive and dangerous underwater work and was responsible for recovery of valuable materials.

★ Donald E. Brotherton, CBM, USN, Beaver Falls, Pa., and Roy R. Roop, BM1c, USN, Ellicott City, Md.: When fire broke out in the hold of a transport during the invasion of Sicily, they fought through heavy smoke into the hold and assisted in hoisting to the upper deck a box of smoking chemical grenades, thereby preventing an explosion and probable loss of life.

★ Richard J. Cariens, MM1c, USCGR, Evansville, Ill.: Following an explosion in a rescue boat 22 September 1943, he boarded the craft and located and repaired the ruptured gasoline feed line despite the possibility of another explosion of the high-octane fuel.

★ John M. Cook, AMM1c, USN, Leo, S. C.: As turret gunner of a torpedo plane which crashed into stormy seas after take-off from a carrier, he pulled his unconscious pilot out of the sinking craft and dragged him to a hastily inflated life raft.

★ Hadie M. Griffiths, BM1c, USN, Tifton, Ga.: When the USS *Hornet* was subjected to violent Japanese air attack, he dived back into the water after being rescued by a destroyer and assisted five of his comrades to safety. Before becoming exhausted, he also secured lines to two life rafts.



Dope Sheet (NAS, Norfolk)

"... And where, may I ask, did you find an authorization for such a repair?"

★ Lawrence S. Jurkovich, BM1c, USNR, Cincinnati, Ohio, and Leonard L. Lovelace, BM1c, USNR, Florence, Ala.: As members of a mobile firefighting unit when an Army train loaded with ammunition and gasoline was derailed at Licata, Sicily, 24 July 1943, they worked tirelessly to control the fire with utter disregard to their own safety and the danger of imminent explosions.

★ Stephen Evanisko, MM2c, USNR, Johnstown, Pa. (missing in action):



Stephen Evanisko

Severely injured when thrown from a salvage vessel by the explosion of an enemy shell during the invasion of Sicily, he unhesitatingly removed his own life preserver and placed it near a shipmate who was in danger of drowning, despite the grave risk to himself.

★ Anthony Sanders, BM2c, USN, Baltimore, Md., and Lawrence T. Orsillo, F1c, USNR, Stoneham, Mass.: Members of a fire and rescue party attached to a transport anchored in Algiers harbor 16 July 1943 when a nearby cargo ship was wracked by fire and explosion, they voluntarily made their way between piles of blazing gasoline containers to cut the mooring lines so the burning ship could be towed clear of the harbor.

★ Eugene M. Bast, PhM3c, USNR, Cedar Falls, Iowa: During a transport landing at New Georgia Island, he unhesitatingly braved enemy fire to swim to the aid of a man swept away from a rubber boat. Despite rain and darkness, he brought the man back to the ship.

★ Ordell I. Bradshaw, MoMM3c, USCGR, Fort Worth, Tex.: Fighting swift and treacherous river currents, he plunged in and unhesitatingly went to the rescue of a drowning seaman who had gone down once. He reached the exhausted man and brought him to safety.

★ Thomas F. Burke, RM3c, USNR, Boston, Mass., and William L. Hull, SM3c, USN, San Francisco, Calif.: When their small cargo vessel came alongside the torpedoed and burning USS *John Penn* off Guadalcanal, they dived overboard, despite extreme danger of burning oil and wreckage, and fought their way to wounded men in the water, bringing four to safety and assisting in the rescue of many others.

★ Harry Fox, PhM3c, USN, Toledo, Ohio: Attempting to rescue an officer when a transport life boat foundered in the South Pacific, 20 July 1943, he made repeated dives, although hampered by an ill-fitting lifejacket, until he detached the heavy gear with which the drowning victim was encumbered. He was attempting to put a life belt on the officer when they were separated by the heavy sea.

★ William J. Johns, Sp(T)3c, USNR, Denver, Colo. (posthumously): When two U. S. subchasers were bombed and set afire during the assault on Sicily,

he worked with outstanding courage to control the blaze until enemy bombs struck again and destroyed the craft.

★ Willard D. Persson, F1c, USNR, Newport, Oreg.: During rescue work off Guadalcanal, 13 August 1943, he swam to the aid of a wounded comrade despite burning oil, exploding ammunition and falling debris and towed him to safety. He assisted in picking up four other men who were helpless in the water.

★ Anthony J. Rizzi, RM3c, USNR, North Tarrytown, N. Y. (posthumously): Fatally wounded, burned and blinded by an explosion in his vessel during the invasion of Sicily, he dragged a severely wounded shipmate through a flaming radio room to an entrance where the man could be removed to safety.

★ Wilfred J. Hull, S2c, USNR, Windsor, Vt. (posthumously): When a plane from his carrier crashed on the deck, he unhesitatingly rushed to the aid of the pilot. Before he could reach the trapped flier, the plane burst into flames, spraying him with burning gasoline. He was fatally injured.

★ Boleslaus A. Mankus, S2c, USNR, Brooklyn, N. Y. (posthumously): When a plane crashed on the deck of his aircraft carrier, he unhesitatingly rushed to the aid of a crew member whose clothing caught fire in the rescue attempt. Frustrated in his valiant attempt, his own clothing caught fire and he succumbed to burns.

Gold Star in Lieu of Second



AIR MEDAL

★ Lt. (jg) Edgar I. Keers Jr., USNR, New Rochelle, N. Y.: Flying on three extremely difficult operations in the Kahili area, he led his planes with such skill that the missions were carried



Official U. S. Navy photograph

REMOVED JAP MINES: For his outstanding work as mine disposal officer in the Aleutians area, Lieut. William C. Holmes Jr., USNR, of Duluth, Minn., has received the Navy and Marine Corps Medal. His extraordinary skill and perseverance saved many lives which otherwise might have been lost and contributed materially to the success of our operations.

out without a single loss. He also destroyed a Zero and assisted in shooting down one bomber of a numerically superior hostile force.

★ Ens. Charles S. Williams, USNR, Auburn, N. Y.: On 22 July 1943, while acting as escort for our bombers in the Solomons area, he skillfully engaged a formation of attacking Zeros, shot down one in flames and assisted in driving off the others, enabling the bombers to complete their mission and return safely.



AIR MEDAL

★ Comdr. Whitmore S. Butts, USN, Harpers Ferry, W. Va.: Employing to the fullest extent his comprehensive knowledge, he invariably chose the most dangerous targets for himself and labored tirelessly in training his men for many successful attacks against strongly defended enemy positions in the Solomons area, March-June 1943.

★ Comdr. John L. Chittenden, USN, Massena, N. Y.: As commander of a patrol squadron in the Aleutians from July 1942 to June 1943, he courageously launched a lone dive-bombing attack against enemy installations in Kiska harbor and completed the mission despite the fact that his craft was heavily iced. In the face of the severest Alaskan weather, his expert skill contributed greatly to the success of our operations.

★ Comdr. Charles H. Ostrom, USN, Miami Fla. (posthumously): When he led a flight of 15 fighters against numerically superior Japanese forces in the Solomons 30 June 1943, his division destroyed three enemy bombers, while his entire squadron accounted for 19 Zeros and 11 twin-engined bombers and completely disrupted the entire Japanese formation. During the period of his leadership his squadron accounted for a total of 60 enemy planes.

★ Lt. Comdr. Cecil K. Harper, USN, Coronado, Calif.: As commander of a patrol squadron in the South Pacific Area, 16-17 July 1943, he led a group of six aircraft in a vital attack on the Japanese base at Nauru Island and contributed largely to the success of his flight in inflicting severe damage on the enemy, despite terrific opposition.

★ Lt. Comdr. Francis R. Jones, USN, Philadelphia, Pa.: Although handicapped by adverse weather conditions, he took part in both day and night bombing covering the operations of our forces in Kiska harbor from 24 July 1942 to 11 July 1943. He led his flight repeatedly into hostile territory and successfully completed many hazardous missions.

★ Lt. Comdr. Theophilus H. Moore, USN, Durham, N. C.: During three periods of intense activity from March to July 1943, he led numerous torpedo and dive-bombing flights in the Solomons area. His expert ability to render his squadron enabled his pilots to fight clear of battle areas without the loss of a plane.

★ Lieut. Hartsel D. Allen, USN, Clarksburg, W. Va.: He took part in numerous hazardous missions in the Solomons area from 16 January to 17 May 1943 and during these attacks dropped tons of demolition, fragmentation and incendiary bombs on strongly fortified Munda Point and Vila Plantation.

★ Lieut. Leon T. Apgar, USNR, Monroe, La.; Lieut. Fred H. Gage Jr., USNR, Pensacola, Fla.; Lieut. Floyd W. Goodrich, USNR, Rome, N. Y.; Lieut. Chester G. Livingston, USNR, Honolulu, T. H.; Lieut. Varnum W. Marsh, USNR, Minot, N. Dak.; and Lieut. Merle T. Schall, USNR, Elderton, Pa. (missing in action): As patrol plane commanders attached to a squadron in the Solomons area from 26 March to 22 July 1943, they flew deep into enemy territory, frequently under hazardous weather conditions, and successfully carried out many combat missions despite terrific antiaircraft and fighter opposition.

★ Lieut. Norman E. Berg, USNR, Bremerton, Wash.: In addition to numerous dive-bombing missions, he participated in two successful night operations in Moila Point-Tonolei harbor, Bougainville, despite intense antiaircraft and fighter opposition. He also participated in numerous missions in the Solomons area from 10 March to 23 July 1943.

★ Lieut. Clyde W. Curley, USNR, San Mateo, Calif.: On the night of 10 January 1943 he contacted an enemy task force of six destroyers and one light cruiser off Cape Esperance and tracked it relentlessly, relaying information which enabled our surface forces to prevent the enemy from shelling our positions or landing forces. He also completed many hazardous night missions in the Solomons area.

★ Lieut. John S. Dalton, USN, Philadelphia, Pa. (missing in action): Fighting a force of numerically superior Japanese planes over Kahili, he courageously attacked with outstanding skill and fierce determination until his plane was forced down at sea five miles from a hostile base. During a period of intense activity, he led his squadron on numerous hazardous missions.



Recruit (NTS, Newport, R. I.)



Official U. S. Navy photograph

HERO OF PLANE CRASH: Robert E. Dearen, ACMM, USN, of Quinton, N. J., is congratulated by Rear Admiral Ingram C. Sowell, USN, following presentation of the Navy and Marine Corps Medal. When his plane crashed near Devil's Island, Nova Scotia, on 8 December 1941, Dearen, although suffering from shock and injuries, let himself down into the cold water to reach the rubber emergency boat and pulled loose the life raft retaining strap with his teeth, dragged the raft out of the plane and put it into commission.

★ Lieut. Joseph P. Keigher Jr., USNR, Staten Island, N. Y.: Leading numerous dive and torpedo bombing flights against Japanese positions and shipping in the Solomons area from March to July 1943, he accomplished his missions despite determined antiaircraft and fighter opposition.

★ Lieut. James H. Kilker, USNR, Brighton, Colo.: By skillful planning and courageous determination, he enabled his crew to drop several tons of high explosive on vital enemy installations at Munda Point and Vila Plantation. On 15 January 1943 he flew deep into hostile territory at Buka Passage in order to bomb and release propaganda pamphlets on a village under Japanese control, contributing in large measure to reestablishing the natives' loyalty to the Allied cause.

★ Lieut. George J. Lenhart, USNR, Long Beach, Calif.: Spotting a Marine officer afloat in the vicinity of Catalina Island, after he had bailed out of his plane, he effected a precarious landing despite high wind and heavy seas, maneuvered alongside the dazed and helpless man, and hauled him aboard through a hatch. Unable to take off, he finally turned inshore and transferred the rescued officer to a Coast Guard boat.

★ Lieut. Hadley M. Lewis, USNR, Pasadena, Calif.: He successfully carried out many search, convoy and harassing flights in the Solomons, often in the face of hazardous weather conditions, from 24 December 1942 to 12 May 1943. On three occasions he piloted the spotting plane for night surface shelling of Munda Point and Vila Plantation. On another occasion, he relentlessly attacked Japanese ships.

★ Lieut. John C. Livezey, USN, Leonia, N. J. (posthumously): In addition to making several attacks against Japanese runways, installations, bivouac areas and supply dumps, he took part in a daylight strike against shipping in the Solomons area in which two

reefs, made a successful landing and picked up survivors. He participated in numerous missions from 15 December 1942 to 29 April 1943.

★Lieut. Leopold Weidlin, USNR, St. Albans, N. Y.: Engaging in numerous glide-bombing attacks against Japanese forces in the Solomons from March to July 1943, he also provided accurate and timely information on artillery and enemy troop movements and displayed high navigational skill in dangerous minelaying operations.

★Lieut. Charles W. Winterbottom Jr., USNR, Springfield, Ill.: In action against Japanese forces in the Solomons from March to July 1943, he engaged in numerous attacks and displayed exceptional navigational and flying ability in the hazardous assignment of laying mines in the Buin-Faisi area.

★Lieut. Roger M. Wolfe, USN, Pomona, Calif.: On night search missions in the Solomons for the first five months of 1943, he led his squadron in bombing and harassing strongly fortified enemy bases at Munda Point and Vila Plantation. Forced down at sea 27 January 1943, his plane sank almost immediately, but he succeeded in getting all his crew to safety on a nearby island.

★Lieut. David G. Woosley, USNR, Escondido, Calif.: Often in the face of intense antiaircraft fire, he made many night flights deep into hostile territory including attacks against the heavily fortified Japanese air base at Munda Point and an attack on an enemy task force in the Solomons area.

★Lt. (jg) Paul E. Babel, USNR, Pawtucket, R. I. (posthumously): Taking part in numerous combat flights from Henderson Field from April to June 1943, he flew on two successful expeditions in the Kahili-Shortland harbors and contributed to the sinking of one enemy destroyer and one cargo ship and the damaging of another destroyer.

★Lt. (jg) Robert F. Bergeron, USNR, Brockton, Mass.: In addition to numerous dive-bombing missions against Japanese positions, he participated in a strike against a beached Japanese destroyer at Kolombangara and scored a direct hit on the vessel despite intense antiaircraft fire.

★Lt. (jg) Baker A. Bradenbaugh, USNR, Pittsburgh, Pa.: During 17 dive-bombing missions against Japanese positions and shipping in the Solomons from March to July 1943, he effectively damaged a hostile cargo ship and scored a direct hit on a beached Japanese destroyer at Kolombangara.

★Lt. (jg) Donald R. Burke, USNR, Los Angeles, Calif. (posthumously): With grim determination and utter disregard for his own safety, he made numerous combat flights from Henderson Field from April to June 1943 and made successful raids on enemy runways, antiaircraft positions, bivouac areas and supply dumps. He also flew on two successful minelaying expeditions.

★Lt. (jg) Moreno J. Caparrelli, USN, Plainville, Conn.: Despite hazardous weather, he successfully completed numerous night missions including two assaults against Munda Point, when



Spindrift (Pre-Flight School, Iowa City, Ia.)

"He says the quartermaster has the biccups!"

he daringly flew in the face of heavy antiaircraft fire to drop bombs on vital positions.

★Lt. (jg) Stuart M. Cavan, USNR, Delhi, N. Y.: In numerous attacks on shore installations and enemy harbors in the Solomons area, he displayed exceptional navigation and flying ability. He also accomplished two difficult operations in the Buin-Faisi area despite blinding illumination and persistent antiaircraft and fighter opposition.

★Lt. (jg) William W. Gardner, USN, San Diego, Calif.: Taking off 16 December 1942 to locate the crew of a Flying Fortress shot down in the Solomons area, he made a daylight flight through a combat area, rescued 10 survivors, and took off again from the rough sea to bring all back to safety.

★Lt. (jg) Howard R. Henrikson, USNR, Cranston, R. I.; Lt. (jg) William H. Paine Jr., USNR, San Francisco, Calif., and Ens. John Dittgen Morrison Jr., USNR, Ridgefield Park, N. J.: On 17 July 1943 they carried out a daring daylight strike against Japanese shipping in Kahili harbor and contributed materially to the complete destruction of seven enemy ships and 49 aircraft. They also flew numerous combat missions against enemy ships and installations during a period of intense activity.

★Lt. (jg) Herbert C. Hogan, USNR, Oak Park, Ill.: In addition to numerous dive-bombing missions against enemy shore installations, he participated in a strike against Japanese shipping in Kahili harbor and scored a direct hit on a cargo vessel which exploded and sank. He completed many missions in the Solomons area from 10 March to 22 July 1943.

★Lt. (jg) Edward F. Hughes, USNR, Medford, Mass. (missing in action): Fighting with outstanding courage, he consistently launched accurate dive-bombing attacks against strongly fortified positions in the Solomons area from April to July 1943 and contributed to the sinking of four Japanese destroyers.

★Lt. (jg) Randall K. Kennon, USN, Red Oak, Iowa: On the night of 14 January 1943 he contacted a Japanese task force of seven destroyers and two cruisers heading in the direction of Cape Esperance and relentlessly tracked the hostile ships until our forces arrived and engaged the enemy.

He made many hazardous night runs, harassing, bombing, convoy and search missions.

★Lt. (jg) Jack R. Kreigh, USNR, Columbia, Mo.: In action against the Japanese in the Solomons area from March to July 1943, he often operated at the maximum range of his plane and took part in numerous bombing and strafing raids against enemy shore installations and shipping.

★Lt. (jg) Walter P. Leadbetter, USNR, Wollaston, Mass. (missing in action): Taking part in numerous flights from Henderson Field, he carried out his assignments with cool courage. During a night operation in Kahili harbor he overcame extremely difficult navigational hazards to complete his mission.

★Lt. (jg) Richard F. Matthews, USNR, Kansas City, Mo.: Often operating at the maximum range of his plane during action against the Japanese in the Solomons from March to July 1943, he pressed home numerous attacks and accomplished vital missions despite damaging hits on his own craft.

★Lt. (jg) Omar C. Menohar, USNR, Ligonier, Pa.: Attacked by a large formation of Zeros in the Solomons 13 July 1943, he sent one plane crashing in flames. Later, he helped in routing float planes which attempted to attack a flight of our bombers. He destroyed one enemy plane in this action.

★Lt. (jg) Edward M. Peck, USNR, Shreveport, La.: During two periods of intense activity, February-March and early June, 1943, he flew two vital missions against Japanese forces of 16 and 20 destroyers in the Solomons area. He participated in several other strikes against Japanese shipping and also served as flare plane for other bombers.

★Lt. (jg) Lester A. Powers Jr., USN, Cottage Grove, Oreg.: He rendered valuable assistance as radioman-gunner of a dive-bomber in the Solomon Islands from September to November 1942, when several Japanese warships were severely damaged and four or five transports sunk. On 19 October he aided in the destruction of a float-type plane.

★Lt. (jg) Robert J. Reising, USNR, Evansville, Ind.: Engaging in numerous missions in the Solomons area from March to July 1943, he operated many times at the maximum range of his plane and pressed home his attacks with fierce determination in the face of intense opposition.

★Lt. (jg) Irvin E. Rink, USNR, Wichita, Kans. (missing in action): Fighting off a superior force of Japanese fighters in the Solomons area, 4 August 1943, he enabled a rescue ship he was escorting to escape undamaged. He participated in many other combat missions.

★Lt. (jg) Charles W. Schnabel, USNR, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio: On 17 July 1943, when his flight of bombers carried out a daylight strike on Kahili harbor shipping, he contributed greatly to the complete destruction of seven Japanese ships and 49 aircraft. He also flew numerous combat missions during a period of intense activity in the area.