

January 6, 1944

Dear Dr. Allen:

Thanks a million for the Christmas Issue of your most welcome Newsletter. You have no idea how Mrs. Brown and I pour over the interesting contents of it. If it is as welcome to others as it is to us you are doing more than your share to help bolster the morale of all the boys in service. God Bless You Doc. Keep up the good work, and I for one assure you---your efforts are certainly not in Vain.

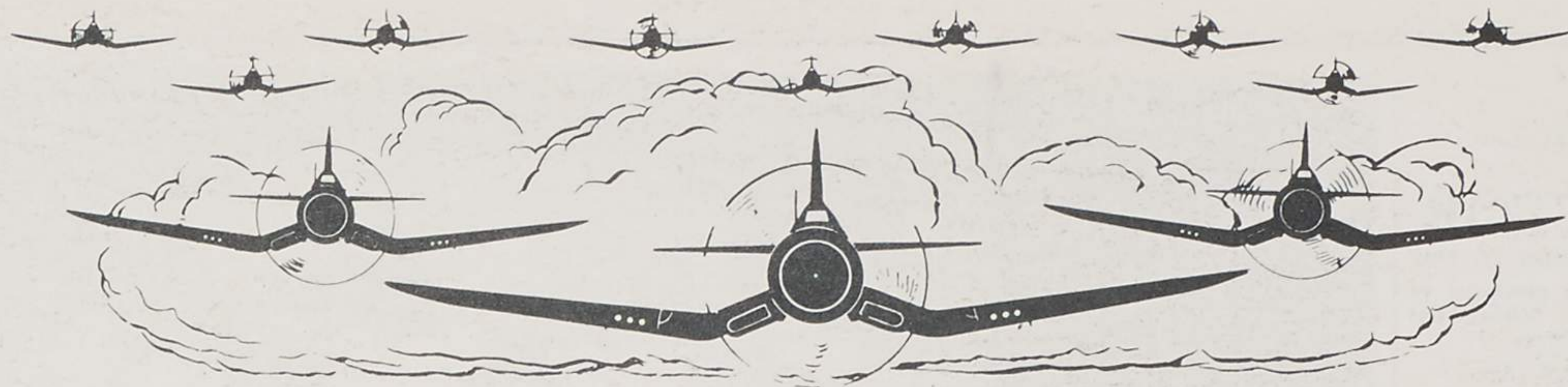
I was especially in hopes you would make some reference to the basketball game you had with the Hutchinson Navy Air Base because that is to be my next assignment. That is, I am told that. I have received no official written notice, and in the Navy you never count on movig until you get it in writing from the Bureau of Personnel in Washington. So I just have unofficial word. Should I make the move, I am surely going to get to Lawrence and see you and all others, plus that basketball team that my Dad sends me clippings concerning. Here's hpping for an early visit.

Last week it was our good fortune to go up to San Francisco. There we met Ensign and Mrs. Ernie Vanek, Ensign and Mrs Gerald Barker, and Ensign Herman Fischer. It was all Navy. We also bumped into Ensign Carl Jessup at Treasure Island. It was just like home meeting so many Kansas people. We had great fun running down California and for once we were in the majority. What a great feeling that is. You have no idea how these transplanted natives can rave. Our final parting words were that we would all get together back in good ole Kansas when this darn thing is over.

Good luck to Doc and all the boys who are keeping KU on the basketball map. We get the scores out here and that's about all, but we still have our spirit and memories of the wonderful games we saw and play over and over every time we meet.

As always,

Murray Brown



THE NAVYATOR

Vol. I, No. 35

U. S. NAVY PRE-FLIGHT SCHOOL, DEL MONTE, CALIF.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1943

The Christmas Message

By Chaplain Warren L. Wolf

When Christ was born history turned the corner. Time was mere speculation Before Christ. Now men had an objective to attain and time was measured in terms of After Christ. Thus, Christmas Day more than twenty centuries ago became the pivotal point for man's relationship between himself and time. So, Christmas held once the destiny and destination of man.

But Christmas in 1943 is so different: Life is so very different. We do not know our destiny nor destination. We know that we fight for the freedom of the world. We know that we will win the war. But in between, that which we know will be and the now, there is so much that is unknown.

Therefore, one of the thoughts that we must have today is a thought from the yesteryears of man. It was on the first Christmas that certain men said "Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass." That pilgrimage of those men quelled the questionings in their hearts.

Just so, if we would find personal peace in the midst of turmoil, let us make a mental journey to that humble manger which gave confidence and direction to those men in olden time. When they saw that which "God had made known unto men," they found the answer to their helplessness and they also saw their hope.

So in the Christ child at Christman we very easily find our way. We see that Christmas is a fact and a faith.

Perhaps, it is only in the simplicity of that scene, that we find our answer to the questions of our time. For the fact is told simply "Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger."

So in that Christmas story our fight against tryanny and our personal feelings can be embossed on hearts that will some day realize the truth of "Peace on earth, among men good will."

We will see it is not a myth, it is not a mockery. It is something that can and will be. We will see our destiny and destination. We will fill the world with men of good will—men who know that man was made for love, because



A Merry Christmas

A MESSAGE FROM THE CAPTAIN

"Greetings to all hands and best wishes for a Merry Christmas. To the Eighteenth, 'good luck and happy landings.' I expect to be on deck for the graduation of the Nineteenth."

G. W. STEELE

Ten Officers Get Transfer Orders

Only ten officers received orders this week but business on the half-deck is expected to increase to the rush stage during the next three

God is love, and that the love and joy at the Birth of Christ will be the answer that we seek to "Peace on earth, good will towards men."

This is the message that Christmas will bring one day.

This is your hope if you have lost your way.

weeks since all except approximately 40 officers aboard have been "alerted" (as they say in the Army) and will be shoving off for new stations when orders arrive.

Those who got orders and their destinations: Lieut. Storrs, Bunker Hill, Ind.; Lieut. Nicholson, Georgia Pre-Flight; Lieut. Patrick, Olathe, Kas.; Lieut. Strang, Ottumwa, Ia.; Lieut. (jg) Diggs, Natcheloches, La.; Ens. Coupe, San Francisco; Lieut. (jg) Salogga, Hutchinson, Kas.; Lieut. (jg) Callagan, San Diego; Lieut. (jg) Murphy, San Diego; Lieut. Pendlebury, San Francisco.

School Observes Christmas With Special Service

Christmas, 1943, finds the personnel of this school with mingled feelings concerning the future but to all the immediate past has been a huge success.

For the Eighteenth Battalion yesterday was a red letter day highlighted by its graduation to Naval Air Stations for primary flight training.



ENSIGN BROWN
His Christmas Party a success.

Officers, enlisted men and their families and friends, last night joined with the cadets in a highly successful Christmas party in the Bali room, arranged through the efforts of Ens. Brown, the Welfare and Recreation officer, and Chaplain Wolf. Before the party all hands partook of the special Christmas dinner and cadets had their dates for the dance as their dinner guests in the mess hall.

Officers brought their families and friends aboard for the dinner and a majority stayed for the party. A party for children was held yesterday afternoon in the Recreation Room.

Late yesterday the cadet choir sang Christmas carols at the home of Captain and Mrs. Steele and at Sick Bay.

Today at 0900 Chaplain Wolf will conduct the Christmas service in the chapel. Preceding the service will be a 30-minute program of Christmas music by Craig Nelson, Sp(W)1c, organist, that will be given over the public address system.

Special musical selections during the service will be the Christmas Hymn by Michael Praetorius and the Navy Hymn "Eternal Father Strong to Save," sung by the cadet choir.

Cadets of the Catholic faith will attend a Christmas service at 0900 at the Royal Presidio Chapel, Monterey.

For those cadets who are so inclined, there'll be dancing tomorrow at the Mission Ranch, Carmel, from 1400 until 1700.



THE NAVYATOR

Vol. I, No. 35 Saturday, December 25, 1943

Published every Saturday for the personnel of the United States Navy Pre-Flight School, Del Monte, Calif., at no expense to the Navy.

CAPTAIN GEORGE W. STEELE, USN (Ret.)
Commanding Officer

LIEUT. COMDR. GEORGE D. FITZHUGH, USNR
Executive Officer

LIEUT. W. D. PARTNER, USNR
Public Relations Officer

Harvey Petersen Is Honor Man In The Eighteenth

The Eighteenth Battalion today will pack its Christmas gifts along with various and sundry other gear and prepare to shove off tomorrow for the Naval Air Stations at Norman, Okla., and Hutchinson, Kans.; having dispensed with the graduating ceremonies yesterday afternoon. Of the 220 men leaving, 80 will welcome the New Year in at Norman and 140 at Hutchinson.



CADET PETERSEN
The Eighteenth's honor man

Speakers yesterday were Lieut. Comdr. Fitzhugh, Lieut. Meyers and Lieut. Kolf.

Ranking man in the Eighteenth was Harvey Dallas Petersen, pride of K-2, from Albion, Neb., who recorded a composite grade of 3.57. Runner-up was John H. Hooper, K-1, Lancaster, Pa., who knocked off a 3.54 and was tops in the battalion in officer aptitude with a 3.65 mark.

Petersen was second to Hooper with 3.60 and Robert M. Neigel, K-3, Irvington, N. J., posted 3.55.

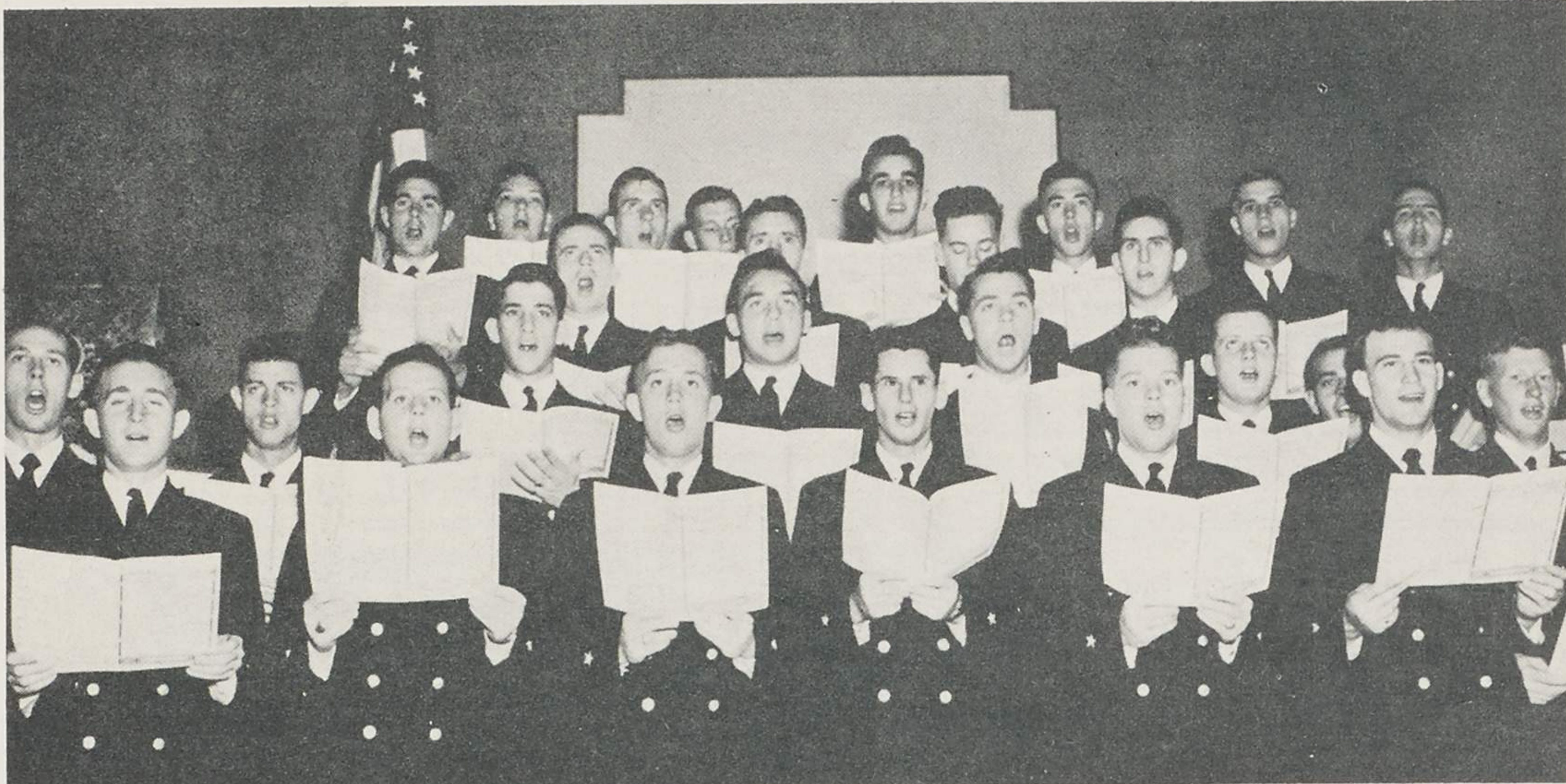
Alexander M. Lopper, Jr., Warren L. Lungstrum and William E. Finnerty dominated the ground school department. Lopper, K-3, New York City, had the high grade of 3.70 and Lungstrum, K-2, Topeka, Kans., had 3.69. Finnerty, L-3, Staten Island, N.Y., had 3.62.

Joseph C. Fischer, L-1, Monticello, N.Y., the obstacle course expert, neared the maximum grade in athletics with his 3.92 and he was closely followed by John R. Hyden, L-1, Arlington, Tex., 3.91, and John C. Hayes, K-1, Barstow, Calif., 3.90.

McBRIDE, BLAUL LEAVE

Two members of the Ship's Company were transferred this week for duty outside the continental limits. Those transferred were B. J. McBride, SM3c, and T. J. Blaul, S1c.

Movies for the New Year's weekend are "No Time For Love," with Claudette Colbert and Fred MacMurray, Saturday, and "Happy Land," with Don Ameche and Frances Dee, Sunday.



"Silent Night! Holy Night!"

ATTENTION, ALL CADETS:

Comic Strip Commencement Address Worth Remembering

LAST October 17 in the comic strip, "Terry and the Pirates," Artist Milton Caniff hit a new high in method of presentation. His Colonel Corkin informed Aviation Cadet Terry Lee of the successful completion of his training course and welcomed him into the Army Air Forces as a fighter pilot (buzz-boy). And in doing so, delivered a commencement address that received wide acclaim throughout the nation's press and has been preserved for posterity in the Congressional Record.

The Colonel's speech was a memorial one and is well worth remembering by all aviation cadets — Army and Navy — when times comes to don those wings. Following are Colonel Corkin's remarks. Save them, read them occasionally — and remember them!



MILTON CANIFF
Col. Corkin hits the jack-pot

"I'm going to make a speech—and it'll be the last one of its kind in captivity—so don't get a short circuit between the ears.

"Well, you made it. You're a flight officer in the Air Forces of the Army of the United States. Those wings are like a neon light on your chest. . . . I'm not going to wave the flag at you, but some things you must never forget.

"Every country has had a hand in the development of the airplane but, after all, the Wright brothers were a couple of Dayton, Ohio, boys—and Kitty Hawk is strictly North Carolina. The hallmark of the United States is on every aircraft.

"So you find yourself in a position to defend the country that gave you the weapon with which to do it. . . . But it wasn't just you who earned those wings. . . . A ghostly echelon of good guys flew their hearts out in old kites to give you the know-how—and some smart slide rule jokers sweat it out over drawing boards

to give you a machine 'that will keep you up there shooting.

"I recommend you for fighter aircraft and I want you to be cocky and smart and proud of being a buzz-boy. But don't forget that every bullet you shoot, every gallon of gas and oil you burn was brought here by transport pilots who flew it in over the worst terrain in the world! You may get the glory—but they put the lift in your balloon!

"And don't let me ever catch you being high-bicycle with the enlisted men in your ground crew! Without them, you'd never get ten feet off the ground! Every grease monkey in that gang is right beside you in the cockpit—and their hands are on that stick, just the same as yours.

"You'll get angry as the devil at the Army and its so-called red tape. But be patient with it— somehow, the old eagle has managed to end up in possession of the ball in every war since 1776 — so just humor it along.

"Okay, sport, end of speech. When you get up in that 'wild blue yonder,' the song talks about, remember there are a lot of good guys missing from mess tables in the South Pacific, Alaska, Africa, Britain, Asia and back home who are sorta counting on you to take it from here!"

The Navyator orchestra, under the direction of Bandmaster Mann, will be the attraction at the Happy Hour next Friday night.



TODAY Aboard

Movie — "His Butler's Sister," Deanna Durbin, Franchot Tone. Showings at 1910 for cadets and at 2100 for officers, Ship's Company, guests.

Ashore

State Theatre—"Claudia," Dorothy McGuire, Robert Young.
Carmel Theatre — "Destroyer," Edward G. Robinson, Maguriete Chapman.

TOMORROW Aboard

Movie — "Northern Pursuit," Erroll Flynn, Julie Bishop. Showings at 1310 and 1500 for cadets. Officers and Ship's Company attend 1500 showing only.

Ashore

1430 — Nineteenth Battalion Graduation Dance, Monterey Peninsula Country Club.

1400—Dancing, Mission Ranch, Carmel.

State Theatre—"Watch on the Rhine," Bette Davis, Paul Lukas.
Carmel Theatre—"Hit the Ice," Abbott and Costello.

FRIDAY

1900 — Happy Hour featuring Navyator Orchestra.

COMING MOVIES

Saturday—"No Time For Love," Claudette Colbert, Fred MacMurray.

Sunday—"Happy Land," Don Ameche, Frances Dee.

Nineteenth To Dance

The Nineteenth Battalion's last official social function will be held tomorrow afternoon at the Monterey Peninsula Country Club in the form of the graduation dance. The Navyator orchestra will supply the tunes.

Physical Fitness Index Mark of 139 By J. E. Johnson

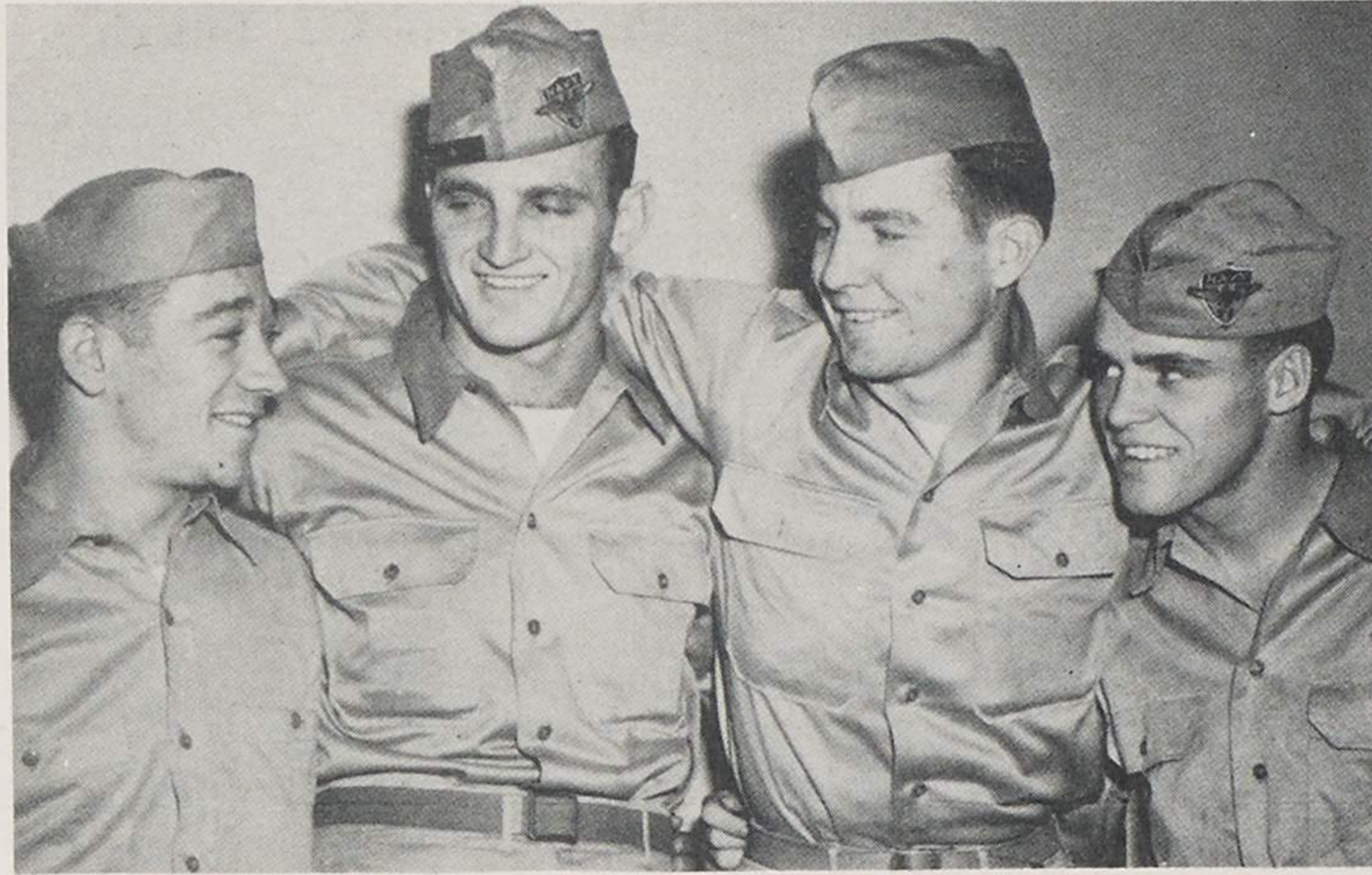
What the Tests and Measurements division thought was just another Battalion has developed into the best all-around outfit to be graduated from this School. This startling fact was brought to light this week when facts and figures concerning the Eighteenth were announced by Lieut. Neufeld.

After double-checking the testing results, Lieut. Neufeld came forth with the announcement that the Eighteenth had the highest average of all battalions since the school went into commission, February 13, 1942. In accomplishing this feat the men of the graduating group broke one battalion average, tied another and ranked extremely high in the remaining three tests.

Top muscle man in the battalion was John E. Johnson, K-2, Westerly, R.I., whose amazing physical fitness index of 139 was eleven points higher than the record of 128 established by W. N. Clawson of the Second, 'way back in May. During his high school days at Stonington, Conn., Johnson was not a star athlete and limited such activities to tennis—all of which is another point toward proving the theory that ardent participation in athletics isn't necessary in obtaining physical excellence.

The Eighteenth set a new mark for pushups by averaging 29.50 which broke the old record of 29.25 made by the Sixteenth. And the speed-agility record of 30.21 seconds, set by the Seventeenth, was tied. The Eighteenth averaged 10.25 chins, 22.33 inches for the jump-reach and had a physical fitness index of 87.66.

Cowden Simpson, L-1, Dallas, Tex., had the high mark for the jump-reach with a leap of 29½ inches and John R. Hyden, L-1, Arlington, Tex., accomplished 56 pushups to take the individual title in that department. The top speed-agility time of 27.4 seconds was recorded by Emmert C. Emory, K-3, Perry, Ia., and A. B. Talley, Jr., had the most chins with 21.



The Eighteenth's testing champions . . . Emery (speed-agility); Simpson (jump-reach); Talley (chins); and Hyden (pushups).



The most "physically fit" cadet to be graduated from this school . . . Cadet J. E. Johnson, whose index totaled 139.

Craig Nelson, Sp(W)1c, choir director and organist, last night played for the midnight Mass at the Carmel Mission.

Officers Who Have Passed 'A' Swim Test Total 154

Excellent cooperation with the Athletic Department's swimming program for officers has established a record for the other Pre-Flight Schools to match and Lieut. Gary doubts that the task will be accomplished.

All officers aboard—from the exec down and including the heads of all departments—are participating in the program outlined by Lieut. Comdr. Wickhorst that requires all hands to pass the "A" test. Figures announced this week by Lieut. Gary indicate the success of the plan and are a challenge to other activities under CNAPrim-Tra.

Lieut. Gary's records show that 154 officers have passed the "A" test. Of this total 19 have completed the "AA." Seventeen have passed the "AAA" and 36 have credit for the maximum test on the list—the maintenance.

The Athletics department has set the pace and has only five officers who haven't completed the "A" test. Eight military officers have yet to be checked off the list and seventeen academics officers have not completed the minimum requirements.

Of the 30 officers yet to pass the "A" fifteen have passed some part of it and should complete the entire test by the end of next week.

Coronados Stay Atop Standings, Vindicators Next

The Coronado squadron, winners of the winter season competition in the Sports Program, last week maintained the swift pace and again topped the standings.

The new system, started last week, has the four remaining squadrons—Coronado, Vindicator, Catalina and Hellcat—each fielding two teams in wrestling, boxing, basketball and swimming. Leading units last week were the Vindicators (1) and the Coronados (2), each with thirty points. The Vindicator unit lost a pair of basketball games in five starts while the Coronados suffered only a swimming loss in five outings.

Tied for the runner-up spot in the weekly standings were the Catalinas (2) and the Coronados (1), each with 25 points. Hellcats (1) and Vindicators (2) ranked next with 15 points and the Catalinas (1) and the Hellcats (2) brought up the rear with 10 each.

The leading Coronado squadron gained its 55 points by taking seven victories and losing only one basketball game and one swimming meet. The Vindicators of Company A rank second in the cumulative standings with 45 points with the Catalinas next with 35 and the Hellcats at the bottom with 25.

The standings:

Coronado 55	Catalina 35
Vindicator 45	Hellcat 25

Seventeen Choristers Go With Eighteenth

Chaplain Wolf and Craign Nelson, Sp(W)1c, choir director, wish to thank the following men of the Eighteenth Battalion for their participation in the cadet choir:

John H. Binkley, Allen G. Blomberg, Eugene A. Bundy, Aaron H. Drumright Jr., Warren J. Ellison, Emmert C. Emery, Neal S. Fox, William N. Hunter III, Daniel J. Keulin.

George E. Millard, Richard C. Mullins, Richard D. Specht, Fred J. Verse, Roland L. Webb, Clarence W. Willis Jr., Lawrence Blankenship, James H. Barnard.

Male Call

by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates"



Tasty Dish On The T/O



The Christmas mail rush . . . Specialists Toney, Kahn and Lawrence weather the deluge.

Testament Of Youth

(NOTE—We reprint this letter which appeared in the Reader's Digest some months ago because it is one of the finest utterances that has come from this war. Its simplicity of style and dignity of thought place it in the classe occupied by the truly great letters of the world.)

A letter from a U. S. Naval flier, missing since the Battle of Midway, to a friend at home:

"The fates have been kind to me and when you hear people saying harsh things about American youth, you will know how wrong they all are. So many times that now they have become commonplace, I've seen incidents that make me know that we were never soft, never weak.

"Many of my friends are now dead. To a man, each died with a nonchalance that each would have denied was courage, but simply called a lack of fear and forgot the triumph. If anything great or good has been born of this war, it should be valued in the youth of our country, who were never trained for war, who almost never believed in war, but who have, from some hidden source, brought forth a gallanery which is homespun, it is so real.

"Out here between the spaceless sea and sky, American youth has found itself, and given of itself, so that a spark may catch, burst into flame, and burn high. If our country takes these sacrifices with indifference it will be the cruelest

Navy War Bond Sales Up For Third Month

For the third consecutive month Navy War Bond purchases totaled more than \$25,000,000 when November sales aggregated \$25,078,425 to personnel in all activities within the Naval establishment. This total was the fourth largest in the history of the Navy War Bond program.

Of the November sales, \$15,591,696 represented bond purchases by civilian employees of the Navy under the payroll savings plan; \$7,140,544 were allotment purchases by uniformed personnel of the Navy; Marine Corps and Coast Guard, and \$2,346,185 were cash purchases by uniformed and civilian personnel.

Service At Air Base

At 1000 today, Chaplain Wolf will conduct a special Christmas service at the Monterey Naval Air Base. The cadet choir will participate in the service with a program of Yuletide music.

ingratitude the world has ever known.

"You will, I know, do all in your power to help others keep the faith. My luck can't last much longer. But the flame goes on and only that is important."

