



USS MONTEREY

FLATTOP FLASHES

December, 1944

# Season's Greetings

## CAPTAIN INGERSOLL RECEIVES NAVY CROSS

OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE MONTEREY:

During the past month our Skipper, Captain S.H. INGERSOLL, was awarded the Navy Cross by Vice Admiral J. S. McCain, U.S. Navy. This award was presented by Admiral William F. Halsey, U. S. Navy, during a recent stay in port.

Captain INGERSOLL served as a Midshipman aboard the USS MISSOURI in 1918; subsequently graduating from the Naval Academy in 1920. His first years duty after graduation was in the Boiler Division of the old battleship NORTH DAKOTA, "The Queen of the Coal-Burners" and served three more years in destroyers principally in the Asiatic Station prior to receiving his flight training at Pensacola.

His first aviation duty was in Torpedo Squadron ONE in the Atlantic Fleet with the USS WRIGHT as Flagship. After a full tour of duty with this squadron, Captain INGERSOLL had one full tour of duty in Fighting Squadron FIVE during which period he operated most of the time from the USS LEXINGTON and on occasions, the old LANGLEY. From 1929 to 1931 he was attached to Flight Test and Experimental Department at Norfolk, and it was  
(continued on page 2)



Captain Stuart H. Ingersoll  
United States Navy

During the year 1944, we have made great strides along the road to Tokyo. In the extension of allied dominance over millions of square miles of the Pacific Ocean Areas, our fleet has played a major role. All hands may well be proud of the MONTEREY's contribution to the fleet effort. Although far from home and a long time separated from familiar scenes, we should be happy and proud during this Christmas and New Year period. The Commanding Officer wishes all hands a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Victorious New Year with the hope that in the near future they may enjoy a vacation which they richly deserve with their loved ones at home.

The Executive Officer extends to all hands, best wishes for a Happy Christmas and a Successful New Year. Although we cannot make our usual Christmas gifts to our families and friends this year, we can take satisfaction in the fact that we have given to our families and the nation our share in battles won, ships sunk and enemy aircraft destroyed. This has been a strenuous and fortunate year for the MONTEREY and I am confident that 1945 will be just as successful. We have a fine ship and an experienced and courageous crew. We will take a back seat to no one.

## CAPTAIN INGERSOLL RECEIVES NAVY CROSS

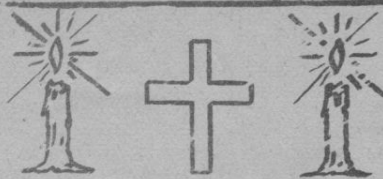
(Continued from Page 1)

during this time that our present carrier arresting gear was designed and developed by the Experimental Department. Following this tour of shore duty he was ordered to the old LANGLEY as a ship's officer serving as Landing Signal Officer, Arresting Gear and Flight Deck Officer. Upon completion of this assignment he was returned for two more years to the Flight Test and Experimental Department and then went to sea again in Fighting Squadron FIVE and Bombing Squadron FIVE operating on the old LEXINGTON. The Captain next had duty in connection with fitting out the old YORKTOWN and serving aboard her as Air Plot and Assistant Air Officer during its first year of commissioned service. From the YORKTOWN he went to command a patrol squadron on the west coast, made the flight from San Diego to Pearl Harbor and later on, the first round-trip between Pearl and Manila, proceeding via Midway, Wake and Guam. In 1940 he was ordered to duty in the Bureau of Aeronautics, and after 6 months went to sea again as Air Operations Officer for Vice Admiral Bristol who commanded Task Force TWENTY FOUR and which was charged with the organizing and operation of all convoy escort service in the North Atlantic. Captain INGERSOLL, as Force Operations Officer, for this force during the first year of the war, received a Commendation Ribbon and a Legion of Merit for his duty in the North Atlantic. Following the North Atlantic duty Captain INGERSOLL had command of Naval Air Station, Anacostia, D.C. for a year, from which he came to the MONTEREY as Commanding Officer. For the work accomplished by the MONTEREY at Truk, Marianas, and the first battle of the Philippine Sea he was awarded a Gold Star in lieu of a second Legion of Merit, and for the splendid accomplishments of the ship in the Philippines-Formosa area and the second battle of Philippine Sea he was awarded the Navy Cross.

Upon receipt of the Navy Cross, Capt. INGERSOLL published the following memorandum to all hands aboard the MONTEREY:

"It was my honor to receive a Navy Cross awarded by the force commander and presented by Admiral Halsey. To me this award is a symbol of the splendid manner in which all hands have operated the MONTEREY against the enemy. It is therefore your Navy Cross which I received as Captain of this ship and I shall wear it with pride in your accomplishments."

This edition is for your use  
aboard ship. It CAN NOT  
be mailed home. ....



## CHAPLAIN'S CHAT

"GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST AND ON EARTH PEACE  
TO MEN OF GOOD WILL"

Over 2,000 years ago Christ Our Savior was born in a stable in Bethlehem. Shepherds came from afar off to adore him and join in singing, "Glory to God in the Highest and on Earth Peace to Men of Good Will." There was joy in Christ's heart that first Christmas night, in spite of the shadows of sorrowing and suffering, for He had come out of his love for us and our service. Yes, there was the shadows of suffering, hardships and the separation from those whom He loves, which He would learn to face during the next thirty-three years of His life. However, that first Christmas was a happy one, and one full of joy despite the future.

For us this Christmas is much like that first one in Bethlehem, we are separated even now from those we love, our future may be one of suffering and sacrifice. For quite sometime we have been undergoing real privation; we have been making real sacrifices day after day, but the same Christ who was born in Bethlehem lived and died for us will help make our road of happiness if we will only allow Him to do so.

If we will seek his help today this can be a very happy Christmas, for we will realize that whatever cross we may have to carry in the future, no matter how heavy or burdensome, that He Himself will be aiding us, our families, and our country, yes, we shall be carrying our cross out of love for Him and He will be there to aid us. Repeat then with the angels today, "Glory to God in the highest and on Earth Peace to Men of Good Will."

### LIBRARY HOURS

1345.....to.....1445  
1800.....to.....1900

### CHURCH SERVICES

#### SUNDAYS

Mass.....8615  
General Services...0830  
Mass.....0925

#### WEEK DAYS

Mass.....0615

Watch the Plan-of-the-day  
for any changes.



## Air Group TWENTY-EIGHT Leaving Soon

With more than seven months of the most rigorous duty in the Pacific area, and leaving a most enviable record behind them, Air Group TWENTY-EIGHT will soon be detached from us for a much needed and well deserved rest period with their families and friends in the states.



Lt. Comdr. Roger W. Mehle

Under the able leadership of Lt. Cdr. ROGER W. MEHLE, USN, who had already achieved an outstanding record aboard the SARATOGA, LEXINGTON, and ENTERPRISE during the early months of the war; and with such an accomplished pilot under him as Lt. RONALD P. GIFT, USNR, commanding the VT Squadron, whose record also showed us that he too had seen plenty of action in the early months of the war, as an observation and scout plane pilot aboard the cruisers DETROIT and HELENA; Air Group TWENTY-EIGHT boarded the USS MONTEREY at an advanced base upon the departure of Air Group THIRTY.

At present they are the senior carrier air group in the Pacific area and have left a wake of destruction at enemy bases in all the major operations since their arrival in the combat zone.

Throughout all their operations this squadron has displayed the best of teamwork. Their landings and takeoffs have been as efficiently handled and executed as any other squadron in this area. The fighting spirit that they have displayed, before, during and after their many attacks on Japanese bases and shipping has been of the highest quality and will long be remembered by the many friends and shipmates that they are leaving behind.

An incomplete survey of their records reveals: Approximately sixty enemy planes destroyed airborne; very near the hundred-mark destroyed on the ground; over forty enemy ships either sunk or badly damaged, including one CV of the Ryuho class; and in addition to the above they have done extensive damage to enemy ground installations as well as giving direct air support to our invasion forces.

To you of Air Group TWENTY-EIGHT, amid our many Alohas and Farewells, we, the officers and crew of the USS MONTEREY, wish you the best of luck and the best of flying conditions wherever you may go. It

# SPORTS

During the past few months the sports parade aboard the MONTEREY has been spotlighted by the second big interdivisional basketball tournament which was won by "M" Division.

There were three leagues in this tournament. Each league consisting of eight teams which played for an elimination to the top six teams. The two leading teams in each of the three leagues played in an elimination semi-final round robin. The six teams which played in this semi-final round robin were: "M" Division, "E" Division, "V-1" Division, "4th" Division, and the Marines.

From the semi-final round robin came the final playoff game for the championship between "M" Division (the boys from down under) and the Marines (glamour in khaki) which "M" took by the score of 24 to 9. Missing from the Marine line-up in this game was (Big Red) Anderson, who was in sick bay for an operation. The Marines aren't using this for an excuse, they just want it remembered! Now, "Red" is in the best of health and is waiting for the next tournament. He wants to add the Marines name on the championship plaque. Speaking of the plaque, I will give you what information I have on the subject. It is a plaque that will list the names of each championship team and will be held by that team until some other team wins it and takes it to have their name inscribed thereon. So far, it has been held by "V-1" Division, winner of the first tournament, and now it will go to the "M" Division.

Back to the game, however, it was played regulation time with four men per team. Playing for "M" Division were: Frutche, Resue, Canfield, Ruduff, Rabia, and Kimble. For the Marines: Bloom, Russo, Shannon, Kearney, Couzens, and Torrace.

Hitting the loop for high scorer of the tournament was Clark of the "C&R" (we keep the showers running) team with 68 points. High scorer for the round robin only was Resue of "M" Division with 43 points.

### MORE BASKETBALL-----

Not long ago the MONTEREY all star team (a team composed of players from the above tournament) went over to the USS HORNET to play the HORNET all star team. Also representing us was an officer's team which played the HORNET officers. We lost the all star game by a score of 31 to 10 and our officers lost by a score of 31 to 23. Well, that was our first game away from home, so we don't feel too bad about it; in fact some of the boys have recovered already and are putting out a challenge for another engagement whenever it is possible.

Until the next edition, this is your Sports Editor, signing off but hoping that the New Year will find us taking more interest in sports activities as well as taking a 30 day leave. (With permission, of course.)

has been a pleasure to serve with you and if you should be among those who return with us for another conquest of the enemy, it shall be our great pleasure once again.



CAPTAIN STUART H. INGERSOLL  
Commanding.  
COMMANDER FRANK B. MILLER  
Executive Officer

#### STAFF

Supervisor	P.M. Culpepper-Lt. (jg)
Editor	R.T. Winstead-Phom. 2c
Assistant Editor	M.D. Kish—Y. 2c
Divisional Editor	A.N. Chambers—Y. 1c
Sports Editor	W.J. Coffey-AerM. 2c
Art Editor	M. James-AerM. 2c
Typist	A.V. Razukevich—Y. 2c
Chief Censor	R.H. Devenney—Lt.
	J.O. Verfaillie—Y. 3c
Printers	L.T. Luther-Prtr. 3c
	E.A. Michon—Slc

### Are you an OPTIMIST or a PESSIMIST?

For over a year now we have heard the optimists say, "We are going home for a rest after the next raid," and we have heard the pessimists say, "Our only chance of going home is to get a transfer". On which side of this fence are you?

"Well, I heard a fellow in the chow hall say that he heard one officer tell another that we were to be detached from the formation to go home after one more raid".

"Yeah, well, that ain't the way that I heard it because I had an officer tell me personally that he read in a confidential letter where they were going to keep the carriers out here and under the rotation of duty plan send personnel out here to relieve us when our turn comes up. And he don't give out any bum dope either. He said definitely that the ship wouldn't go back to the states until the war was over".

"Hey, did you guys hear what that radioman just said? He said that we have our orders and will be going back to the states any day now".

"Aw, that is only scuttlebutt because we are only going back to Pearl Harbor".

"I heard that the Captain was going to tell us tomorrow just what the straight dope is".

So, round and round it goes, like Major Bowes "Wheel of Fortune", and that is just about what it amounts to. "A Wheel of Fortune", for on it depends your moral and also the type of work you are going to do. You can't be working very hard if you are spending your time listening to these rumors,



but whether you want to listen to them or not there is going to be someone who wants to tell them to you, and he is going to tell them whether you are listening or not. Yes, you are going to hear a lot of them. Are you going to believe the optimist or are you going to believe the pessimist? That is the question for you to decide. Will you look at the good side, and hope? Or will you look at the bad side, and give up hope? Whether the path ahead of you looks dull and dreary or sunny and bright depends on you. ARE YOU AN OPTIMIST OR A PESSIMIST?

#### A FEW WORDS ABOUT THIS EDITION

For the past few months there has been no "FLATTOP FLASHES" published due to the slack of interest in preparing the publications. Now that it is back on the press again, let's try to keep it there and get out an edition each month. In order to do this, we are asking the help of all hands, it is your ship's paper and it is up to you to make it the best ship's paper in the Fleet. This staff that put out this edition is not permanent because the men are constantly being transferred and we are going to need new men to work on and write for the paper in order to continue it. If you are interested in this type of work during your spare time drop in and see Lt.(jg) P.M. Culpepper, R.T. Winstead, Phom. 2/c, in the Photo Lab; or M.D. Kish, Y 2/c in the File Room.



# Divisional Hot Dope

## K-Muni K-Tions

This is the saga of "K" Division. No, I did not say soggy although that could apply. Amid sparks, noise and drunken burps, we boarded the MONTEREY in Philly. She was our ship, every sleazily welded plate of her, and we formed our gang under the expert (and absent-minded) supervision of Lt. Zimmer. He was a tolerant man, well aided by Lt. Dyer and abetted by Lt. "Crummy Ben" Hinton, and Ensign (now a j.g.) "Little Davy" Davis. Chaos reigned, and due to the sterling efforts of such sober and outstanding characters as Nelson RMLc, "Big Foot" Speray and ND. "No Dice" Lightman, the division rapidly assumed it's shape, from which it never recovered.

Finally, in order to have something left of "K" Division, we set sail and left Philadelphia on shakedown. The first crust of salt began to take form on the shoulders of the "Mighty Men" of "K". We returned from shakedown, lied in all the bars, kissed our women farewell and returned aboard to start what turned out to be a perpetual cruise.

By the time we had come to Panama everyone had become acquainted with every one else. Fast friendships were formed. Some were formed so fast that they are still being tested for them. We shall never forget Panama. It's one of those places where you can't remember what the hell happened while you were there and you can't forget what happened after you have gone.

Soon the Sunny Isles of the Pacific made their appearance across the starboard bow and we greeted them with loud cries of "ALOHA". They greeted us with even louder cries of "WHEN DID YOU GET PAID, MAC?" and we made our acquaintance with the place that was to be our harbor of refuge for many long and tepid months.

But we digress. The purpose of this jumble of words is to tell of "K" Div. and the mighty men who keep us in touch with the world that most of us barely remember. I'd better say at this time that we give you those who have been with us and those who have joined us. We make no

distinction because our hides are hung together and we are all for one and all for going home soon. We shall not mention at this time the many and varied habits such as, playing with the imaginary dog, twitching, sleeping while standing, short memories, hard problems, and other quaint and Asiatic habits. If I can wear a bone in my nose then who am I to comment on someone else doing strange things.

The division is split into six units, so we shall begin with the craziest bunch and work down. And what could be worse than a radioman? I give you such sterling examples as Donald "The Duck" Cole, "Wee Willie" Wilson, "Sweet Baby" Harding, JJ. "The Tender Kid" Savoy, "Frenchie" Bonin, "Dutch" Shultz and others too numerous to mention. The first guy you see lying down mumbling "Da Dit Da", that is a radioman, but if it is work you want him for, then keep moving because a radioman is known far and wide for being allergic to labor.

The next in order is the Signal Gang. We lead off with Joe "The Brains" Burns, "Flying Crud" Orr, "Odie" Olson, "Little Napoleon" Lessard, "Unsullied" Sullivan "One Fathom" Herbst, "Gum Beater" Plante and his crew of noisy nightingales, and last but not least, "Coxsun" Hromcich. This outfit is one of the largest in providing the compartment with amusement. We have "U Slay Me, Frankie" Brumbaugh to croon to us and the musical team of Rony and Orr to torment us on the ocarina. If you want the straight dope, the Signalmen have it.

In Radio Two, we have "Hill Billie" Hill, "Hairless Joe" Kass, "Greezer" Gibbons, Manke "The Monkey" and all the rest of the boys who grind out the dinner-time music. Of this outfit all we can say is "Music, Maestro, Please".

The Radar Gang, led by "Get me a Bicycle" Schaefer, remains buried in the after noon. These boys are seldom seen as none of them care to wake up for anything less than liberty. If anyone is interested in lessons on how to sleep 28 hours a day, see Bob "The Thin Man" Craft if you can wake him. See "PP" Potous on how to woo by mail. Lessons in confusion may be taken from "Honest Boys" Woodhead.

(continued on Page 6)

# K-MUNI K-TIONS

(Continued from Page 5)

We will combine our yeomen and printers. The less said of the yeoman, the better, although we take great pride in the fact that no division has yeomen any more Asiatic than ours. To prove our statement, we offer, (Greecy Nick) Nickalou, (I'm Always Like This, Doc) Chambers, (Sleezy) Martin, and a few other odd assorted typewriter artists. The Print Shop, furnishing us with the Plan of the Day, the news, and this piece of plunder deserves nothing but praise. We wonder how they do it, why they do it, and if anybody reads it anyway, but with our hats off to Verfalle, Luther, Michon, and all the rest of the guys who use the print shop as an excuse for not going to bed, we finish our salute to ourselves.

Up to this point, we haven't mentioned any officers for we feel they deserve a paragraph for themselves and this is the paragraph. We believe our officers are the finest, the most noble, the smartest, the hardest working, of any in the entire Navy. (Not only are we asiatic but we need the points.) Our Division is led (further and further west) by Lt. (Limey) Devenney. With the cooperation of Lt. Hinton, Lt. (Moe) Gardiner, Lt. (Georgie Boy) Culpeper and all the others who labor night and day to break down the messages that tell us we are not going back to the states. The signal gang is controlled by Lt. (Mother) Wallace and the radar gang has (little Davy) Davis as its guiding light. The yeomen tell under the expert care and attention of Lt. (Pretty Boy) Webb.

As a final bid for asiaticness we offer (K) Division's utility man and poet (Lau-Rete) Newman. The less said about him, the better.

In memoriam we wish to say how much we miss (Pappy) Moore, CRE. When he left us, we lost the biggest liar, the tallest story teller and the laziest Radioman in the Navy. We wish him well wherever he may be because there may be people there who don't have to listen to his stories.

So now you have (K) Division, the brains and the beauty of the MONTEREY. Tho they labor unseen in the bowels of the ship, their intelligence shines forth like a guiding light. Long may they wave.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This article was written by a member of "K" Division. We will run one division a month, so how about your division? Do they have a story to tell?)

"Do you care for dancing, Peggy?"

"No!"

"Why not?"

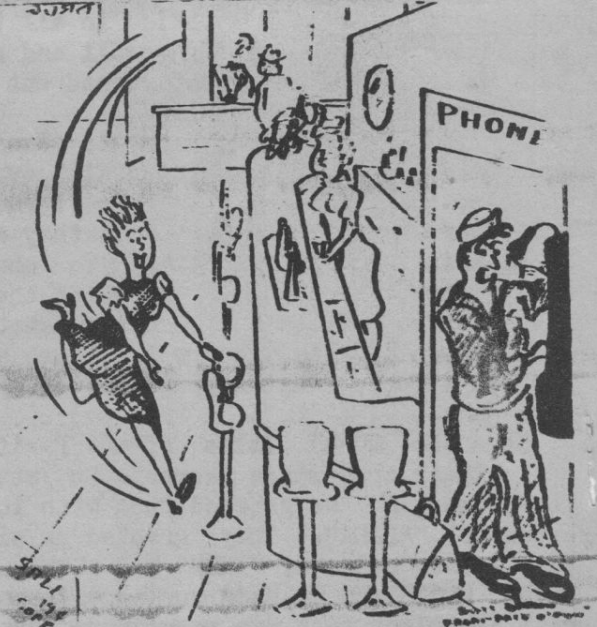
"It's merely hugging set to music."

"Well, what's wrong with that?"

"The music!"



"You'd hate it back home now....nothing but women!"



"Did you hear me dear? I said I just now got into town and am calling from the corner drug store, hello, hello....hello."



---

*from the Poets etc*

---

## CHRISTMAS - 1944

'Twas the night before Christmas,  
And I'm here to say,  
Everybody was sober,  
On the MONTEREY.

To be sober on Christmas,  
Is known to be bad,  
But there is a reason,  
(No liquor was had).

Our socks were all hung,  
On our bunks with great care,  
Oh! Boy what an odor,  
They poluted the air.

There were all kinds of socks,  
Both black ones and white,  
Just in case old St. Nick,  
Should board us that night.

And exactly at midnight,  
(With orders in hand)  
St. Nick called Air Plot,  
For permission to land.

I sounded flight quarters,  
As quick as could be,  
So I could see what Santa,  
Was bringing to me.

I had asked for a bottle;  
I had asked for a bond,  
And I had especially requested,  
A luscious built blonde.

Then out stepped Santa  
With a coat red as sin,  
The coat smelled of mothballs,  
His breath smelled of gin.

He pulled on the drawstring,  
A quick, sudden wrench,  
And out popped my present,  
A buxom blond wench.

He had brought me my woman,  
He had brought me my bond,  
And a whole case of liquor,  
To celebrate on.

But I never got a kiss,  
Or emptied a cup;  
They blew that ~~bugle~~ bugle,  
And then I woke up.  
-H. Newman, RT2c-

## CHRISTMAS UP TO DATE

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing,"  
What's the marking on their wing?  
Flying low or flying high,  
We will blast them from the sky.

"Peace On Earth, Good will To Men,"  
Bearing zero, range is ten.  
Here they come boys, give 'em Hell!  
You take Judy, I'll take Nell.

See that candle in the air,  
Sorry Bud, but that's a flare;  
Pretty soon you'll see another,  
Greetings from our yellow brother.

Not much time for Christmas cheer,  
With the Japs so blooming near;  
When we've got them on the run,  
Sing His praises, everyone.

Christmas seems so far away,  
When we're fighting night and day;  
But we know that on that morn,  
Long ago a babe was born.

Born in humble poverty,  
So that free from sin we'd be;  
Glory Be To God On High!  
Let that ever be our cry.

Merry Christmas to you all,  
Big and little, short and tall;  
May God's blessings on you flow;  
While you're battling with the foe.

-F. Arnold, CY-

# BACKHOUSE BULKHEAD

BY M. JAMES

