NAVIGATION DEPARTMENT

Roster of Officers

Lehman J. S., Commander Deimel, G. C., Lieutenant Tooker, S. T., Lieutenant (junior grade) Mueller, J., Ensign

The Navigation Department of the Fall River consists of the Navigator, Training Officer, Assistant Navigator and the "N" Division of enlisted men. The primary duty of these officers and men, a duty requiring the utmost of responsibility and vigilance, is to guide the ship safely through any waters into which she may be ordered. The Navigation Department has cognizance, as well, over ship control, tactics, deck watch supervision, education, officer and enlisted training.

The Navigation Office contains a library of course books of instructions for advancement in rating, which, are made available to all ship's personnel.

Navigation of the Fall River is carried on principally from the Navigation Bridge, and the Open Bridge in the forward superstructure. A secondary Conning station is in the after superstructure.

The Chart House, located on the Navigation Bridge, contains the equipment and instruments necessary to determine the ship's position. It contains detailed charts of a large portion of the earth's surface. One of the most persistent chores of the men of the "N" Division is the maintenance of these charts in an up-to-date condition. The ship's chronometers, on which accuracy much may depend, and whose rate must constantly be checked, are also carefully stowed in the Chart House.

Just forward of the Chart House on the same level is the Pilot Houst containing within its armored exterior much of the equipment necessary to ship handling. It is here that the "N" Division Quartermaster of the Watch, Steersman and assistants stand their watches when the ship is underway.

The Open Bridge, on the level just above the Navigation Bridge, is the point from which the ship is conned and where the Officer-of-the-Deck takes his station underway. The Navigator is constantly on the Open Bridge when the ship is in piloting waters to advise the Captain on the course to steer and the position of the ship.

When the ship is operating in waters where land is visible and land marks can be identified, the Navigator determines his position by taking bearings of objects which appear on charts of the area. Positioned on the Open Bridge and Navigation Bridge are gyrocompass repeaters from which may be obtained true bearings. The Navigator has available also range-finders, radar and various radio means of determining his position.

If the Fall River is operating well off-shore the Navigator must rely to a great extent upon celestical navigation. Observations made by sextant on the stars and planets must be made just before sunrise or immediately after sunset.

The Division has an Aerographer's Mate, Photographer's Mate, a Chief Buglemaster and two Buglers, in addition to Quartermasters and Quartermaster strikers.