

OFFICER PERSONNEL

PROSPECTIVE VACANCIES.

The following prospective vacancies will probably be filled during the summer shift, 1934:

R.O.T.C. Harvard
 Captain 1
 Lieut. Comdr. 1

R.O.T.C. California
 Lieut. Comdr. 1
 Lieutenant 1

R.O.T.C. Yale
 Captain 1
 Lieut. Comdrs. 2
 Lieutenant 1

R.O.T.C. Washington
 Captain 1
 Lieut. Comdrs. 2

R.O.T.C. Georgia
 Captain 1
 Lieut. Comdr. 1
 Lieutenant 1

R.O.T.C. Northwestern
 Commander 1
 Lieutenant 1

The following billets are to be filled during the summer, 1934, by officers due for shore assignment.

Guam (Gold Star, officers due for sea assignment)	1 Commander 1 Lieut. Comdr., executive 4 Lieutenants
Samoa	1 Lieut. Comdr. 3 Lieutenants
Fourteenth Naval District	2 Commanders 3 Lieut. Comdrs.
Pearl Harbor	1 Commander 1 Comdr. or Lieut. Comdr. (Subm. officer) 2 Lieut. Comdrs. 3 Lieutenants 3 Lieutenants (Subm. officers) 3 Lieuts. (jg) (Subm. officers)
Guantanamo	2 Commanders 2 Lieutenants
Canal Zone	1 Captain, Marine Superintendent, Panama Canal 2 Lieutenants (Subm. officers) 1 Lieut. (jg) (Subm. officer)
Fifteenth Naval District	1 Lieutenant

Vacancies for officers-in-charge of recruiting will be filled by officers of the rank of commander or lieutenant commander in making up the 1934 slate. Requests for assignment should be submitted without delay.

The prospective vacancies are.

Buffalo, N. Y.,
 Pittsburgh, Pa.,
 Macon, Ga.,
 Houston, Texas,
 Little Rock, Ark.,
 Cleveland, Ohio,
 Detroit, Mich.,
 Minneapolis, Minn.,
 Kansas City, Mo.,
 Denver, Colo.,
 Salt Lake City, Utah,
 Los Angeles, Calif., (assistant),
 Louisville, Ky.,
 New Orleans, La.,
 Raleigh, N. C.,
 Council Bluffs, Iowa.

The following demands for officer personnel reliefs on the Asiatic Station are to be filled during the calendar year, 1934. The months indicate the time of arrival on the Asiatic Station.

<u>Date Req.</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>No.</u>
January	Lieutenants	7
"	Lieutenants (j.g.)	12
"	Lieuts. (j.g.) (Subm. officers)	6
March	Lieutenants	3
"	Lieutenants (j.g.)	11
April	Commander	1
"	Lieutenant Commander	1
May	Lieutenant Commanders	2
"	Lieutenants	8
"	Lieutenants (j.g.)	10
June	Commanders	2
"	Lieutenant Commanders	5
"	Lieutenants	6
"	Lieutenants (j.g.)	6
July	Lieutenant Commanders	3
"	Lieutenants	4
"	Lieutenants (Subm. officers)	4
"	Lieuts. (jg) (Subm. officers)	7
August	Lieutenants	2
"	Lieutenant (j.g.)	1
September	Lieutenants	5
"	Lieutenants (j.g.)	2
December	Lieutenant	1
"	Lieutenants (j.g.) (Subm. officers)	2

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following billets in the Sixteenth Naval District are to be filled by officers due for shore assignment:

Chief of Staff
Captain of the Yard, Cavite
Captain of the Yard, Olongapo
Legal Aide
Inspector of Ordnance in Charge, Ammunition Depot, Cavite
Asiatic Communication Officer
District Radio Material Officer

Application for any of the above assignments should be submitted without delay.

COMMENDATIONS.

Letters of commendation were forwarded by the Secretary of the Navy, as follows:

Eugene J. Frich, Chief Boatswain, U.S.N., for heroic action in saving twenty men from the possibility of starvation and disease, when he took charge of a whaleboat which made three trips through terrific surf and, although swamping twice, rescued the men who were stranded while erecting shore signals.

Paul B. Fickes, Chief Signaller, U.S.N., for prompt action in rescuing one woman and attempting to rescue a second woman from drowning in Long Beach, California.

Benjamin F. Lee, Coxswain, U.S.N., for prompt action in saving one woman and Paul B. Fickes, Chief Signaller, from drowning at Long Beach, Calif.

Jesse E. Gose, Gunner's Mate 2c, U.S.N., for heroic conduct and excellent work in diving thirteen times into the murky water of an abandoned, flooded mine shaft near Keffer's, Pennsylvania, and recovering the body of a man which had been lodged 105 feet down for 25 days.

Fred Hicks-Beach, A.M.M. 3c, U.S.N.R., for conduct in the face of grave danger when he manned the motorcycle firefighting equipment and followed General de Pinedo's plane down the runway at Floyd Bennett Field. After the crash which caused the gasoline tank to explode in ensuing fire, he was unable to reach General de Pinedo, but continued his efforts until forced by severe burns about the face to retire.

Joseph K. Swank, ex-Radioman 2c, U.S.N., for prompt action when, assisted by Miss Jean LeFebvre, he rescued R. A. Stallings, Q.M. 3c, U.S.N., from drowning at Silver Beach, Washington.

ENLISTED PERSONNEL

REDUCTION IN RATING.

In the issue of the Bureau of Navigation Bulletin dated 29 July 1933, the Bureau invited attention of the service to paragraph 18, page 516, Naval Digest, 1916, regarding sentences of summary courts-martial and deck courts involving reduction in rating.

Because of the increasing number of cases of this class, the Bureau again brings this matter to the attention of commanding officers and quotes herewith the provisions referred to in Naval Digest, 1916.

"Inappropriate - The sentence of 'reduction to the next inferior rating' is deemed inappropriate to such offenses as 'overstaying liberty', 'absence without permission', 'attempting to smuggle liquor', 'liquor in possession', etc., unless committed by a petty or noncommissioned officer; and even then it is appropriate only when, in the opinion of the court, the commission of the offense and the conduct record of the accused indicate that he can not be relied upon properly to perform all the duties of the rating in which he is serving."

TRAINING COURSE, RADIOMAN SECOND CLASS.

There is now available for distribution the new Navy Training Course "Instructions for Use in Preparation for the rating of Radioman Second Class". There is a pamphlet with Progress Tests and Examination Questions accompanying this course.

NAVAL OBSERVATORY

CHANGE IN CHRONOMETER NOMENCLATURE.

The terms "Patrol boat chronometer" and "Torpedo boat watch" have lost their significance.

The patrol boat chronometer is a small chronometer in appearance and similarity of mounting only. It has the lever escapement, stem winding and other characteristics of a watch, which distinguish it from a chronometer. At present it is issued to many types of smaller vessels other than those of the patrol class.

The torpedo boat watch is somewhat similar to the patrol boat chronometer, except in appearance. It has a case, but is not mounted. It also is issued to the same types of vessels as the patrol boat chronometer. Of the two instruments, it is in general a superior timekeeper.

In view of the above, the Bureau has decided to change the name of the patrol boat chronometer to "Mounted Chronometer Watch" and the torpedo boat watch to "Chronometer Watch".

MISCELLANEOUS

RAPID SIGNAL INSTRUCTION.

That the British Navy is taking steps to prepare its signalmen for the advent, on 1 January 1934, of the revised international signal flags and pennants is evident from the fact that the Navy Department recently received a description of a "rapid signal instruction set" which is being used on the vessels of the British Fleet.

The set consists of a baize-lined wooden box about one foot square by three inches deep. It is divided into compartments which contain painted metal flags of suitable size, a built-in socket in which the mast may be stepped, and the mast of wood or metal having a slot in which the flags may be placed. The mast is long enough to make a hoist of six flags or pennants.

Ships in our own fleet have used similar sets for a number of years, particularly in the wardroom and junior officers' messes and, under the circumstances, the use of the sets at this time is particularly appropriate.

SPONSOR FOR SUBMARINE SS170 "CACHALOT".

The Secretary of the Navy has designated Miss Katharine Duer Kempff as sponsor for the Submarine SS170 "Cachalot", which is to be launched at the U. S. Navy Yard, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, sometime in October, 1933.

Miss Kempff is the daughter of the Commandant of the Portsmouth Navy Yard, Rear Admiral C. S. Kempff, U.S.Navy.

Submarine SS170 "Cachalot" was authorized by Act of Congress, August 29, 1916.

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA - CHANGE IN CONCESSION.

The concession offered by the University of Virginia, as noted in Bureau of Navigation pamphlet, "Schools and Colleges Granting Concessions to Sons and Daughters of Officer and Enlisted Personnel, U.S.Navy, 1928", should be changed to read as follows. "The University of Virginia extends to the sons of officers of the Navy and Marine Corps, irrespective of the location of their post of duty, the privilege of registering under the rules applicable to the registration of Virginia students".