



20 DECEMBER 1930.

BUREAU OF NAVIGATION

BULLETIN



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PUBLISHED FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISSEMINATING
GENERAL INFORMATION OF PROBABLE INTEREST TO
THE NAVAL SERVICE.



OFFICER PERSONNEL

READY RESPONSE APPRECIATED.

When arrangements were made to play the Army-Navy Football Game for charity at the Yankee Stadium, New York, on 13 December, the Navy Athletic Association found it impracticable to allot a quota of tickets for Senators and Representatives and other government officials. The Bureau believed that it would be most desirable to procure tickets, if possible, for such of these officials as might wish to have them. Accordingly, an effort was made to secure from members of the Navy Athletic Association unable to attend the game, their "rights" for their tickets. With this object in view, the following Alnav message was sent:

"0025 REPORT BY DESPATCH TO BUNAV NAMES OF MEMBERS NAVY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION WILLING WAIVE RIGHTS TO TICKETS FOR ARMY-NAVY GAME BUNAVU TO ALLOT SAME TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS PERIOD SHIPS IN COMPANY PLEASE SUMMARIZE 1030."

In response to this message, over 2,250 officers relinquished their "rights" to the Bureau, and by so doing the Bureau was enabled to supply tickets to all Members of Congress and other officials who made application.

The Bureau takes this opportunity to thank officers for their generous response to its request.

ENLISTED PERSONNEL

LETTERS OF COMMENDATION.

The Secretary of the Navy, on December 11, 1930, addressed a letter of commendation to the following:

Arch Cleveland McKnight, Jr., Apprentice Seaman, U.S.N., U.S.S. OMAHA.
Home address, 263 O'Bell Court, Dayton, Ohio.

For prompt action in assisting in the rescue of a woman from drowning. Mrs. Fanny Kalish, while swimming in the surf at Ocean Beach, California, was caught by the rip tide and carried away from shore. Upon hearing her cry for help, McKnight went to her assistance and succeeded in supporting her until help was received from the beach life guard.

The Chief of the Bureau, on December 10, 1930, addressed letters of commendation to the following:

Byron Rodgers Conwell, Pharmacist's Mate 3c, U.S.N., U.S.S. CALIFORNIA.
Home address, R.R.#1, Mooreland, Indiana.

For commendable conduct while on duty in Nicaragua. On or about 19 October, 1930, Conwell gave medical attention to

native of Achuapa who had been shot, and the prompt and efficient treatment not only saved the man's arm from amputation, but undoubtedly saved his life. There being no doctor in the district, Conwell also administered medical treatment to forty-two civilians during the period 21 August to 3 November, 1930.

Stanley Preff, Seaman 2c, U.S.N., Navy Yard, Mare Island, California.
Home address, 110 Derby Street, Salem, Mass.

For prompt action in rescuing a woman from drowning. It appears that on 18 November, 1930, Mrs. J. D. Isbell, while swimming in the deep water end of the Rodman Naval Club swimming pool, Navy Yard, Mare Island, was unable to make the edge of the pool and was in danger of drowning. Upon hearing her call for help, Preff jumped into the pool, fully clothed, and rescued her.

CHIEF PETTY OFFICER ALLOWANCES

Allowances in chief petty officer ratings have been changed as indicated:

<u>Rating</u>	<u>Old Allowance</u>	<u>New Allowance</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
CBM	646	640		6
CPPrtr	50	52	2	
CMM	1203	1123		80
CY	386	383		3
Bmstr	94	100	6	
CBgmstr	5	6	1	
CCStd	198	197		1
CAP	99	129	30	
ACMM	168	173	5	
ACM	24	38	14	
ACCM	27	43	16	
CAerog	18	21	3	
CP	18	21	3	
ACOM	20	30	10	
			<u>90</u>	<u>90</u>

It will be noted from the foregoing that the total allowance of chief petty officers has not been changed, as the increases in certain ratings exactly offset in total number the decreases in other ratings. Allowances remain the same in ratings not mentioned above.

This information is published for the purpose of acquainting the service with the effect the above changes will have on promotion to chief petty officer ratings, which is as follows:

- (a) There will be no promotions from the Bureau's eligibility list to the rating of chief machinist's mate for at least five or six months.
- (b) The increases in allowances in certain aviation ratings, namely, aviation chief metalsmith, aviation chief carpenter's mate, and aviation chief ordnanceman, will exhaust the Bureau's eligibility lists in those ratings when those now on the lists have been advanced, with vacancies still existing in the ratings concerned. The Bureau will place sufficient names on the eligibility lists to fill existing and prospective vacancies in its next regular call for chief petty officer recommendations.

RECRUITING SERVICE OBSERVATIONS.

A Senior Commander on Recruiting Duty Comments on Recruits.

The following excerpts are quoted from a letter received from a Senior Commander on recruiting duty:

"Special Order Discharges are about as I had figured, and I suppose the Bureau is right. Believe me, the people in this Western country are opening their eyes about the enlisted personnel of our Navy. On my trips I talk to many citizens, and I see a greater and healthier respect for the service developing every day. These boys who are coming in now are 100% and are made to believe that they are among the world's luckiest in being accepted.

"We are building up fine call lists, so when normal recruiting is resumed we will be ready.

"As I have often stated, a large part of the Navy's grief in disciplinary matters can be eliminated by excellent recruiting. The money, trouble, time and bad publicity involved in discharges, punishments and desertions are certainly important, if not vital factors in the efficiency of the Fleet."

REPORT OF ENLISTMENTS
FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, 1930.

The following data gives a picture of the care the Navy Recruiting Service is taking in the selection of men to enlist in the Navy:

Applicants	Quota	First Enlistments	Percentage of Applicants Enlisted
7243	404	405	5.5%

TRAINING

OPTICAL SCHOOL.

Information regarding the optical courses available at the Optical School, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., is set forth in the Bureau of Navigation Manual and in various letters. In view of the fact that some difficulty has been experienced in finding sufficient applicants to fill the classes, it is probable that the benefits to be derived are not fully realized, therefore the following summary of the courses available is published:

- (A) Course beginning first of each month for Range-Finder Officers from Fleet prescribed in Bureau of Navigation Manual, Section E-1401 to E-1407. Length of course, 4 weeks. Number in class should not exceed 8.
- (B) Long course for officers, beginning 1 January and 1 July, prescribed in Bureau of Navigation Manual, Sections E-1408 to E-1414. Length of course, 6 months. Number in class should not exceed 6.
- (C) Course beginning first of each month for Enlisted Range Finder Operators from Fleet and for enlisted men taking fire control course. Length of course, 4 weeks. Number in class should not exceed 15.
- (D) Long course for enlisted men, beginning 1 July and 1 January, prescribed in Bureau of Navigation Manual, Section E-2005. Length of course, 6 months. Number in class should not exceed 10.
- (E) Submarine periscope course beginning first of each month for officers who are well grounded in optical work and have previously completed course "B". Length of course, 4 weeks. Number in class should not exceed 1.

- (F) Submarine periscope course beginning first of each month for enlisted men who are well grounded in optical work and have previously completed course "D". Length of course, 4 weeks. Number in class should not exceed 3.

Course "C" is to fit enlisted men for duty as range finder operators. All enlisted men taking the fire control course at the Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., are afforded this instruction, and it is in addition available to enlisted men of ships on the Atlantic Coast. Enlisted men for Course "C" will be recommended to the Bureau of Navigation by their commanding officers, giving the dates when their services can best be spared. Enlisted men recommended for Course "C" shall be limited to those detailed or about to be detailed to duty as range finder operators.

SOUND MOTION PICTURE TECHNICIANS' SCHOOL.

The Bureau of Navigation has promulgated to the service a letter setting forth the needs and requirements for personnel to serve as operators for the new sound motion picture apparatus which will be installed within the next eight months.

Requirements for admission to the Sound Motion Picture Technicians' School will be exacting, as a high standard of competence is necessary to secure satisfactory operation of the equipment.

The schools will be established on or about 5 January, 1931, at the Navy Yard, New York, and the Naval Training Station, San Diego, and about 9 March at the Navy Yard, Cavite, P. I.

Approximately thirty men will be ordered to each of these schools for each of the first several classes, which will be for a period of about six weeks. Succeeding classes will be ordered at six week intervals.

A written examination prepared by the Bureau of Navigation will be given prior to the transfer of candidates to the schools in order to aid in the selection of qualified men. Candidates for this school should make careful preparation for this examination.

RECRUITS UNDER TRAINING.

The following table shows the number of recruits under instruction at the various training stations under date of 13 December, 1930.

	: Great Lakes:	Hampton Roads:	Newport, R.I.:	San Diego:	Total
: Recruit Training	:	:	:	:	:
: Apprentice Seamen	: 248	: 262	: 272	: 209	: 991
: Seamen Second Class	: 0	: 2	: 59	: 1	: 62
: Other ratings	: 10	: 15	: 3	: 6	: 34
	: 258	: 279	: 334	: 216	: 1087

NAVAL OBSERVATORY

ECLIPSE EXPEDITION RETURNS.

Three members of the U. S. Naval Observatory Eclipse Expedition who observed the total eclipse of the sun on 21 October, 1950, on Niuafo'ou Island, Tonga Archipelago, returned this week with 72 photographic plates taken with the seven cameras varying from 38 inches to 65 feet in focal lengths, which were a part of the equipment used to photograph this most interesting of all nature's phenomena. Commander C. H. J. Keppler, U. S. Navy, Officer-in-Charge of the Expedition, together with Lieutenant H. C. Kellers, (MC), U.S.Navy, and Mr. Beven P. Sharpless, Junior Astronomer, carried these plates across the continent as personal baggage, in order to insure their safe arrival at the Observatory. About 20 other plates, including those to be used in a further study of the Einstein effect, are being returned to Swarthmore College by Professor E. W. Merriott, while Professor S. A. Mitchell of the University of Virginia is bringing 18 special films taken with the powerful concave gratings of the two spectrographs. Motion picture films of the eclipse from three cameras are now being developed in New York.

All scientists are extremely gratified over the results achieved, and Professor Mitchell has written to the Superintendent of the Naval Observatory that, in his opinion, this has been the most successful eclipse expedition ever carried out by the U.S. Naval Observatory. Another scientist remarked that, owing to the isolated location of Niuafo'ou Island, the hazardous landing circumstances and the primitive living conditions, whatever success has been achieved by this expedition was made possible because of the aid and services rendered by the ship, officers and men of the U. S. Navy.

About 200 boxes of scientific apparatus and expedition equipment were carried from Niuafo'ou Island to Pearl Harbor on board the U.S.S. TANAGER, whence they are to be returned to Washington via Navy Transport. During the passage of the TANAGER from Niuafo'ou to Tutuila a heavy gale was encountered and the TANAGER was compelled to lie to for 18 hours in order to insure the safety of the eclipse records and equipment. Maximum rolls of 48° to a side were recorded during the height of the gale.

While on Niuafo'ou Island, seven members of an expedition from the Dominion Observatory, Wellington, New Zealand, joined the Naval Observatory party, and a combined camp and mess was established.

Many interesting stories have been related by members of the expedition concerning unusual conditions on Niuafo'ou Island. The natives are happy, carefree, hospitable, friendly, curious, absolutely honest and extremely virtuous. Niuafo'ou is a small volcanic island, exceptionally salubrious, with practically no flies

nor mosquitoes, and is the only habitat of that very rare and strange bird, the Malau (Megapod Pritchardi), about the size of a pigeon, but which lays eggs the size of a turkey egg, burying them 4 to 6 feet in the lava dust and letting Mother Nature do the rest. Between 1100 and 1200 natives live on Niuafou'ou and two white men representing South Sea trading companies. The only product of the island is copra which is called for once or twice a year by a tramp steamer. The mail service is very original, a small inter-island steamer passes by once every 4 to 6 weeks when the natives swim out to the steamer with mail held aloft on a stick. The steamer throws the island's mail overboard in a sealed tin can which the natives then tow back to the island; hence the nickname "Tin Can Island".

NAVAL RESERVE

EMPLOYMENT OF COMMUNICATION RESERVISTS DURING FLEET PROBLEMS.

In order to maintain and stimulate interest in those men already enlisted and possibly increase the number enlisted in the Communication Reserve, the Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Fleet, Commander-in-Chief, Battle Fleet, and Commander Scouting Fleet, have been requested by the Chief of Naval Operations to submit recommendations for the employment of Communication Reservists afloat and ashore during Fleet Problems. The value of such a reserve of trained radio operators from which to draw in time of national emergency is clearly evident.

APPOINTED NAVAL AIDE.

Lieutenant Commander Herbert L. Seward, DE-V(G), U.S.N.R., has been appointed Naval Aide on the staff of the Governor of Connecticut.

CANDIDATES FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE NAVAL ACADEMY.

In past issues of the Bulletin, attention has been invited to the opportunity afforded enlisted men in the Naval Reserve to secure appointments to the Naval Academy. The law authorizes twenty-five appointments yearly from the Naval Reserve. To date the maximum number appointed from the Naval Reserve for any one year has been thirteen. Candidates have been allowed to temporarily change their addresses for the purposes of attending preparatory schools and to associate with the most convenient Naval Reserve Unit in order to maintain their efficiency. Effort is now being made to have the age limit for enlisted men reduced by law to 17 years, to further extend this opportunity.

MISCELLANEOUS

NAVAL ACADEMY JOINS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES.

The Association of American Universities, at a meeting held last October, added the Naval Academy to the list of approved universities and colleges. This gives the Academy a standing which it has never before had among civilian institutions of learning in this country, and is a recognition of the high standard maintained at that institution.

SOUND MOTION PICTURES.

Delivery of Sound Motion Picture Equipment is called for by contract, commencing 15 April, 1931. The installation of this equipment will begin immediately, as equipment and ships become available. The installation will be made by the ship's force, with the aid of personnel trained at the Sound Motion Picture Technicians' School, and tests will be made under the supervision of the representatives of the R.C.A. Photophone, Inc.

The nature of the Sound Motion Picture Apparatus is such that it will require considerable technical skill to install and operate. A qualified motion picture operator can care for the picture projecting mechanism, which in itself is about the same as the complete silent motion picture machine, but the motion picture projector is the simplest part of the apparatus to understand and operate, the complications and intricacies being in the electrical side of the sound reproducing apparatus. Besides being a qualified motion picture machine operator, the sound motion picture technician should be a qualified electrician as well.

Essentially, the electrical side consists of a sound head, voltage amplifier, power amplifier, and speakers.

The sound head contains the exciter lamp, optical system, sound gate, photo-electric cell and possibly one stage of amplification. An exciter lamp furnishes the light ray which is focused by the optical system and directed upon the photo-electric cell through the sound track of the film. The varying light, passing through the sound track on the film, sets up corresponding voltages in the photo-electric cell and thereby produces the fluctuations later emerging from the loud speakers as speech, song, music or noise. Improper adjustment or failure of any unit to operate as designed will cause extremely unsatisfactory reproduction - if any at all.

The amplifier units are similar to those used in radio announcing and amplification systems and are subject to derangement through defective tubes, shock, vibration, etc. The wiring system is complicated and intricate, and various troubles may be expected unless carefully and intelligently cared for.

The reproduction units, or speakers, if overloaded will blow out and stop the show. It must therefore be understood just what load the speakers can stand and how the sound apparatus is regulated.

To insure successful sound motion pictures, highly competent motion picture technicians will be required to operate and care for the equipment.

The following types of sound motion picture apparatus have been purchased from the R.C.A. Photophone Sound Equipment, Inc.,

<u>Number</u>	<u>Type</u>
25	I Class A with four loud speakers and spare parts.
75	I " B " two " " " " "
150	II " " one " speaker " " "

The battleship equipment will consist of two simplex projectors and sound heads, motor generator, voltage amplifiers, and four water-tight horns, together with a perforated smoke proof screen.

The cruiser equipment will consist of two semi-portable projectors with sound heads. The battleship type amplifiers, screen and two horns will complete the cruiser outfit.

The destroyer type consists of one semi-portable projector with sound head, amplifying unit, one horn and screen.

SECOND NICARAGUAN CAMPAIGN MEDALS.

The Bureau has received from the United States Mint, a shipment of the Second Nicaraguan Campaign Medals and their distribution to officers and men will begin at once.

The Bureau and the Commission of Fine arts have approved a design for the medal to commemorate the Yangtze Campaign, 1926 and 1927. The design represents the Temple of the Dragon at Shanghai, China.

NAVAL R.O.T.C. ENROLLMENT.

The enrollment of the Naval R.O.T.C. at Yale University, Harvard University, Northwestern University, Georgia School of Technology, University of California, and University of Washington has for the first time since its establishment filled its full enrollment of 1200 students provided for by law.

On June, 1930, the first class to complete the four year course graduated. There were 125 members, of which 93 were commissioned Ensigns in the Naval Reserve Force and 5 commissioned as Ensigns in the Supply Corps of the regular Navy.

MOTOR VEHICLES.

Regulation of Ownership and Operation.

As a matter of interest and in supplement to Bureau of Legislation Circular-Letter No. 56-30, of 3 September, 1930, the Bureau quotes excerpts from the report of the Commanding Officer of a shore station at which the order was placed in effect.

"Approximately 550 automobile passes, issued freely but with some discretion on previous dates, were replaced by 431 passes issued under these new regulations. The mechanical inspection inaugurated, anticipated rejection and an unwillingness on the part of owners to meet the expense of necessary repairs, account for this reduction in number; departure from the station being contributory in a less measure.

"Two applications were disapproved due to financial irresponsibility, three due to unsatisfactory mechanical condition, and a considerable number were approved only after deficiencies such as brakes, wind-shield wipers, horns, lights, etc., were corrected.

"The alarming frequency in the occurrence of motorcycle accidents to enlisted men previously experienced has been entirely stopped by the denial of motorcycle operation permits to the enlisted men attached to the station.

"In addition to the disappearance of dilapidated machines due to a realization that such could not be brought within the limits of the station, the following reported benefits are quoted:

- '(a) A material reduction in highway accidents and difficulties in which enlisted men have been involved. This is now very marked.
- '(b) A considerable decrease in minor traffic and parking violations, probably due to the fact that permits hard to get are more highly valued and less readily jeopardized.
- '(c) A reduction in traffic congestion on the station.
- '(d) A greater sense of responsibility of automobile operators.'

"It is desired to invite attention to the necessity of compliance with all provisions of civil law in addition to any special regulations on this subject issued by competent naval authority.

SOUND PICTURE SCHOOL ESTABLISHED.

Student Quotas Assigned.

Quotas for the first class at the Sound Motion Picture Technicians' Schools have been assigned. Quotas for succeeding classes will be assigned at later dates. Shore stations will probably not be allotted quotas until the fourth class.

Examination questions for candidates for the school will be forwarded to ships and stations when each quota is assigned.

LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP.

A young officer who recently submitted his resignation and was given leave prior to final acceptance, stepped out, looked around, and requested withdrawal of his resignation with the following remarks:

"I request that my resignation as an officer in the U. S. Navy be cancelled, as I earnestly desire to continue my career as a Naval Officer.

"Since submitting this resignation I have come in contact with business life for the first time and find conditions and circumstances very much different from what I expected."

STATUS OF MERCHANT MARINE NAVAL RESERVE.

The records of the Department indicate that there are now 2,728 officers enrolled in the Merchant Marine Naval Reserve. One hundred and thirty-seven vessels are now warranted to fly the Merchant Marine Naval Reserve Flag.