



Anchors Aweigh

Our Service Song



A Chief and a goat lead cheers during a Navy Football game circa 1919.

Verse 1

*Stand Navy out to sea,
Fight our battle cry;
We'll never change our course,
So vicious foe steer shy-y-y-y.
Roll out the TNT,
Anchors Aweigh,
Sail on to victory
And sink their bones to Davy Jones,
hooray!*

Verse 2

*Anchors Aweigh, my boys,
Anchors Aweigh,
Farewell to foreign shores,
We sail at break of day-ay-ay-ay.
Through our last night ashore,
Drink to the foam,
Until we meet once more.
Here's wishing you a happy voyage home.*

Verse 3

*Blue of the mighty deep:
Gold of God's great sun.
Let these our colors be
Till all of time be done, done, done,
On seven seas we learn
Navy's stern call:
Faith, courage, service true,
With honor, over honor, over all*

U.S. Naval Academy ca 1906

"Anchors Aweigh" was originally composed in 1906 as a football marching song for the U.S. Naval Academy. The music and lyrics were written by Naval Academy Bandmaster Charles A. Zimmerman and Midshipman First Class Alfred H. Miles.

The march was first performed in December 1906 at the Army-Navy football game. The song was credited with helping Navy beat Army for the first time since 1900.

Twenty years later, the lyrics were updated to reflect the fighting spirit of the entire Navy. Midshipman Royal Lovell, Class of 1926, wrote the third stanza. Later, composer George D. Lottman wrote the popular verses that were widely used for the next 70 years.

In 1942, Commander Alfred H. Miles, USN, (Ret.) wrote a new Anchors Aweigh Victory verse that was intended to inspire Sailors fighting in World War II. In 1997, MCPON John Hagan added a new verse which he thought "all Sailors could relate to."

Today, "Anchors Aweigh" speaks directly to our great Naval History and reflects the spirit and sacrifice of Sailors - - past and present. Navy personnel stand at attention during the playing of Anchors Aweigh and render the same honors to the Marine Hymn and the Coast Guard Song, "Semper Paratus."