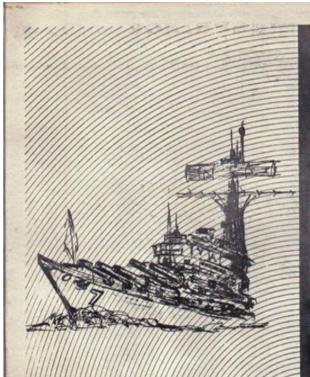
THE SPRINGFIELD RIFLE

JAN.-MARCH 1969 VOL.IX NO.I



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PRONT GOVER

Hen of 2nd Division working hand at highline trunsfer of Admirat Kidd, ComCruDesflot 12 during Exercise "Spring-board" in the Caribbean Engle BACK COVER BACK COVER PUT. C.J. Tanola LT. S.H. I.

#### dontents

Suringboard (1) Chaplain
Ridfamen (2) Division's
Cutacho (4) Career Wolls
New Onleans (6) Shin's Stare
(Connon (8) Bronze Star

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The editorial staff of e RIFLE reserves the right to edit all copy submitted for publication.



# FROM..... THE CAPTAIN'S CHAIR

Our American Heritage is full of dynamic success stories. Have you ever stopped to think why there have been so many very successful Americans? What made them successful?

Certainly many of these successful men and women had backgrounds that were other than ideal. Some were poor while others were trich. Some were brilliant while others were of merely average intelligence. Some were fiery orators while others were quiet and even soft-spoken. Some were large, some were small. What did these successful people have in common?

I believe that the common ingredient was a real desire to succeed and a willingness to do something about it. In other words, desire plus hard work. Isn't that still true today? An athlete may have desire, but the ingredient of the champion is desire plus hard work. Does that sound difficult? Yes. I believe it is difficult.

We can desire something, but do we really desire it badly enough to do something about it? How about your desire to quit smoking? If you want to quit you can, but making up your mind to do so is often the most difficult part. How about making that next rate? You can get it if you really want it. How? By making up

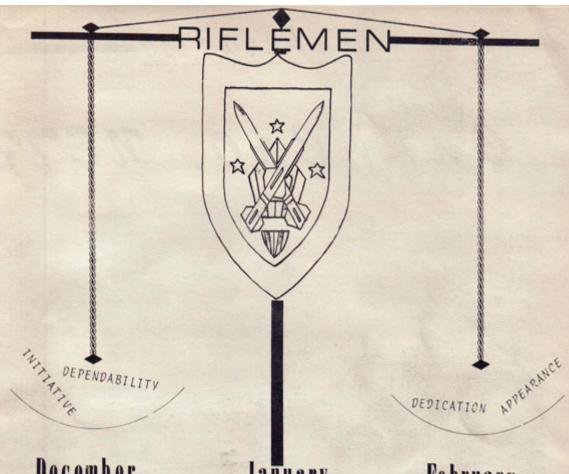


your mind that you want it bad enough to devote some time to study. Is that easy? No, but if you really want that rate you can get it.

It is a human tendency to be lazy. It is so much easier to sit back and relax and watch the world go by. We can be successful though, and we can contribute to our destiny, as our forefathers have done, if we make up our mind to do so and if we are willing to do something about it.

L.w. Zech Jr.





December



CT2 R.W. French

January



MRFN C.E. Wolfe





SM3 G.C. Harris

RIFLEMEN ARE CHOSEN BY A SELECTION BOARD COMPRISED OF EIGHT CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS, AND ARE PICKED AS THE "BEST" OF 10 NOMINEES. OTHER COM -PETITORS ARE INDIVIDUALLY NOM-

ABOARD SPRINGFIELD, THE MEN ARE PRESENTED A SHIP'S PLAQUE FOR OUTSTANDING APPEARANCE, DEPENDABILITY, INITIATIVE, AND DEDICATION. RIFLEMEN ARE ALSO AWARDED AN EXTRA WEEKEND LIB-INATED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE DEPARTMENTS.

FOR BEING CHOSEN "BEST"

THE ERTY TO BE TAKEN AT THEIR DISCRETION WITHIN A THREE MONTH
PERIOD.



### island of Paradise-

## CURACAO, NE74







Curacao, Netherlands Antilles, was undoubtedly one of the more beautiful ports Springfield ever visited.

The largest of six islands comprising the Netherlands Antilles, Curacao is one of the worlds busiest ports, one of the worlds largest oil refinerie;, and the home for the famous swinging pontoon bridge the Queen Lama.

It was one of the most fasinating things to watch as it
opened and closed. The "Queen"
is propelled by two engines
located on the first two pontoons. It is estimated that
the "Swinging Queen" opens and
closes and average of 7,000
times a year and stays open 30
minutes at a time. Needless
to say this causes a slight
traffic jam. But it doesn't
seem to bother the cool-headed
natives of Curacao.

Curacao was truly a rest and recreation port...Most of the liberty parties ended up, at one time or another, on one of the many fine beaches to bask in the warm Caribbean sun.

Other favorite places of relaxation were the casinos. Here was the chance to take a fling with "Lady Luck", or, if you would rather, there were wonderful outdoor resturants where you could get fine food and cool refreshing drinks,or, just...girl watch."

The Second Fleet Band also made the scene while in Curacao.Conductedby Senior Chief Musician C.H. Skipper, the band held a concert in the middle of a shopping plaza. Hundreds of natives along with many tourists poured in to watch and listen as the band performed many songs in their usual excellent for:

After spending four glorious days in this tropical island Springfield headed for its second port of call, New Orleans and the Mardi Gras.



One of the Many outdoor restuarantsenjoyed by all....



A time to relax ....

#### SCENES OF THE ISLAND

Shoppers lane in downtown Willemstad ....





The Queen tmma bridge stands open awaiting ships arrival.....



Some are girl watchers this one watches birds....



After an eight and one-half hour sea and anchor detail the New Orleans skyline rose at a distance. Springfield had arrived in New Orleans, the last leg of the Operation Springboard.

AK AK

While mooring to the Louisa Street Wharf, Spring-field was greeted by several prominent people of the area, including Rear Admiral R.D. Macpherson, Commandant Eighth Naval District, and the city's mayor Mr. Victor H. Schiro. The morning, February ]], was the first of eight days in the Mardi Gras city.

A carefree atmosphere is over the city during Mardi Gras festivities. Everything goes

and the object is for everyone to enjoy themselves. High-lights of the Mardi Gras, of course, are the various parades. These parades are steeped in tradition. Secrecy and extensive planning make each float a surprise and delight to the spectator.

Many different "Krewes" contribute floats and people to man them, but the largest parade is given by the "Krewe of Rex" to climax carnival festivities. Costumed Krewe members cast "throws" into the crowds. These trinkets often cause a scramble until souvenir is held high in the air by the receiver indicating his success. After the parade, the crowd rapidly clears the street and heads for Bourbon Street and Dixieland. Besides the Mardi Gras, Nev

Besides the Mardi Gras, New Orleans is probablu best known for it's music. In the "Heart of Dixieland, you can hear the strains of horns, telling the story of people and a culture long removed from modern America in almost every club you pass. Bourbon Street is the entertainment center of New Orleansandhasjust about everything from the "Bourbon : reet Gallery", known for it's paintings and concerts given by local musicians, to topless "GO-GO" Girls.



Colorful floats were the highlight of every parade.

THE STATE OF THE S



#### Finest' Hosts Marching Cats

"HURRAH SPRINGFIELD, HURRAH SPRINGFIELD, WE LOVE YOU SPRINGFIELD", those were the cheers of the Valdosta (Ga.) "Marching Cats" following their 90 minute performance for Springfieldmen. The masterful performance highlighted our February visit to New Orleans' Mardi Gras.

The band, in New Orleans for Mardi Gras festivities, impressed Soringfieldmen with their musical talents; and even more noticeable was the performance of 15 flag twirling girls known as the "Marching . Cats Flag Corps".



"Cats" Director Mr. Frank Butenschon : accepts ship's plaque from Commander W.C Hamm, Ir., Executive Officer while band members look on.



"Valdosta Marching Cats" take a breather between numbers.....

Springfield's enjoyment of the event was evidenced by the rounds of applause given to numbers like, "By The Time I Get To Phoenix" and "Going Out of My Head".

Towards the end of the impromptu concert Mr. Frank Butenschon, Band Director, gave a short speech complimenting the Navy and expecially the men of the Springfield for the "fine job you are doing at home and abroad in the service of your country".

Composed of students from Valdosta public high schools, the Marching Cats went on to win the "Greatest Band in Dixie" contest, the highest award given at the Mardi

#### HE OTHE CANNON MAKERS



(l to r) FN Alfred Stone, DC2 George Van Hooft, SFP2 Raymond Smith, FN Thomas Danielson and DC2 Richard Woods have their cannon loaded and ready to fire.

In idea of SFP2 Raymond Smiths' led to the creation of Springfield's newest conversation piece.

Smiths' formula?

Take one six - inch brass shell casing; a few pieces of old shoring; some copper stripping; a ball from an old "jackstaff", and a few lengths of chain. Throw it all together along with some hard work and creativity and what happens...you come up with an antique cannon. Unveiled during our recent trip to Curacao, his invention gave a hint of the "Old Navy" to

the afterbrow of this modern guided missile cruiser.

Those helping him for the two nights work required to complete the project were DC2 Richard Woods, (who besides his knowledge of carpentry contributed the use of the carpenter shop), DC2 George Van Hooft, FN Thomas Danielson and FN Alfred Stone.

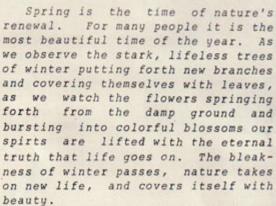
Asked if the team had any future plans, Woods said they were considering the possibility of obtaining an eight inch shell casing from the USS Newport News when she returns from her Vietnam deployment. With it they will forge another cannon, which will have more detail.

HE 10 P



#### The Good Word

CHAPLAIN F.B. Baggott



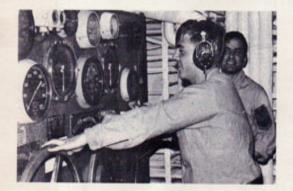
Nature is the eternal optimist. She is forever undaunted by the past. She continues to put forth the best in beauty and abundance. The whole earth is blessed.

The message of Spring is God's gospel to mankind. It is the good news of new life. Life does not and. It is renewed in the merciful love of God. Easter is the story of this renewal for mankind. The stark lifeless form of the crucified Christ comes forth from the darkness of the tomb into a new life. A life that is eternally beautiful and that gives blessings to all mankind. The spirit that gave the renewal of life to Jesus is the same spirit that dwells in the heart of all who trust and live in the will of God. This eternal promise of new life is the hope that strengthens all people who live in the knowledge of God's love. It is the foundation of the optimistic that fills the heart of all those who trust in God.

As you observe the majestic beauty of nature's renewal this spring, listen to the gospel that it heralds and claim that promise for yourself.



One feature of the "Rifle" is to pick three divisions each issue and to explain the duties they preform in the vital parts of the Springfield team. The "Rifle" is focusing on "M", "OL" and 2nd Divisions in this issue.





"M" Division is made up of.
Machinists Mates and have the
large responsibility of operating and maintaining the
Springfields main engines, reduction gears, shafts, and propellers, as well as their associated equipment. Ens
Schurr is the Division Officer.

## SPOTLIGHTING "M", "OL"



Second Division, like all deck divisions, is responsible for up-keep and maintaince. One other job, that is different from other deck divisions aboard, is that 2nd Division furnishes boat crews. Whenever



"OL" Division under the supervision of LTJG Neels, stand the day and night look-outs, commonly called the "eyes of the ship".

Comprised of 20 men, theu stand two four-hour watches to insure around the the clock protection.





The men of "OL" are responsible for the spotless condition of all flag spaces.

"OL" hivision also furnishme drivers in port. They act as chauffers for all vehicles, including the Special Services "High Goose".

## and "2nd" DIVISIONS

Springfield anchors, the boat crews are called into action.
The division also maintains

the Captain's Gig, the Officers motor boat, three utility boats and two whale boats. LTJG Carroll is Division Officer.





f you're going to be something, why not be something special?

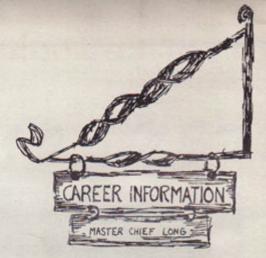
This question has been adopted as the Navy's Career Information slogan - - you've

seen it in the Plan of the Day and on Career Information Publications.

Why are Navy men special? For a number of reasons. First, fewer than half the draft-age men in the country can meet the requirements for naval service. This fact alone makes Navy men an elite group.

Second, many men fall by the wayside early.....Some can't hack boot camp, others won't follow the rules and end up with an Administrative Discharge which will hurt them for the rest of their lives.

Now, we have a higher set of reenlistment standards which will be effective Nov. J, 1969. Simply stated, if you



aren't good enough to be a petty officer, or at least have passed the PO3 exam, you're not good enough for the Navy. The challenge has been issued.

In the Navy a man can go as far and as fast as his ability and energy will take him. How do you stack up? If you are non-rated, will you meet the standard and become a petty officer? If you are an officer or petty officer, what are you doing to see that your men meet the standard?

All of us are going to be something, you know. Why not something special:



Master Chief Long interviews Springfieldman on Preject Transition

#### **New Look For Supply**

A project which took about \$3,200 and several man hours was recently completed giving Springfield a new ship's store.

Also noticed at first glance is the wide variety of items offered to Springfield customers. Electrical appliances such as toasters, coffee pots and waffle iron's fill the shelves as well as the latest in musical equip-

ment. The record and tape department offers a full stock of AM/FM radios, stereo record players and even a few tape decks.

The Supply Department feels the "facelift" was a good investment. They expect at least a 25% sales increase over the old store.

Supply announced their next venture could be a new soda fountain.

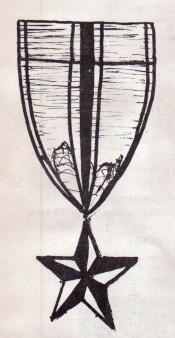
Another addition to the new look for the "finest" is installation of wooden paneling for the passageways leading to the Mess Decks. Inside the Mess Decks two large paintings decorate the bulkheads. Along with recent improvements these all add up to a very pleasant place to enjoy the finest chow the Navy has to offer.



SH2 George Montoya accepts cash for first sale from Captain Lando W. Zech, Jr., Commanding Officer.



#### BRONZE STAR ... for heroic action



Another Vietnam veteran has added the nation's eighth highest military award to his collection.

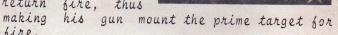
Gunner's Mate First Class James E. Elkins, MAA, received the Bronze Star from Captain L.W. Zech, Jr., Commanding Officer, on March 5 in a meritorious ceremony. Captain Zech presented the medal on behalf of the President and Secretary of the Navy.

\* Elkins earned the medal while serving

with the Monitor Patrol Force in the Rach Ba Rai River in South Vietnam.

He served as a 40mm mount captain aboard Monitor 111. His patrol boat's task was to provide beach cover fire for U.S. Army troop carriers.

On one occasion Monitor 111 came under heavy enemy fire from both banks of the Rach Ba Ria River. Petty Officer Elkins directed accurate return fire, thus



The patrol craft continuing on it's mission, received two direct mortor hits which seriously wounded Elkins. Having received severe injuries, he did not leave his post and continued to return fire until he was knocked unconscious.







