



VOL. 1 NO 1

SEPTEMBER 18, 1943

TELEGRAM FROM SENATOR WALSH

The following telegram was received from the Senator from Massachusetts on Commissioning Day.

Captain and Officers of U.S.S. INTREPID, Norfolk Navy Yard, Norfolk, Va.

You are in my thoughts today and I regret I cannot be with you.

Senator David I. Walsh

A CALL TO THE CREW

This is the first edition of the ship's newspaper to be issued since commissioning day. It isn't a very satisfactory edition.

A good ship's newspaper reflects the lives of the officers and men aboard, their joys and their woes. It contains material of interest and information for them. It possesses the sparkle that emanates from the regard one good shipmate has for another.

This paper needs life! It needs the banter and chatter common to the living spaces during periods of relaxation. It needs the efforts of more members of the crew.

To date very few persons have volunteered contributions. All officers and men interested in promoting the 'spirit of the ship' are requested to contact Lieutenant Otteson in the Gunnery department.

This is the fleet's newest newspaper-- it can be the fleet's best. Will it be? That's up to you. Let's get in the swing. Submit your efforts today!

Attend Church Sunday.

THE U.S.S. INTREPID ESTABLISHES A RECORD!

Yes, The INTREPID began her career in the navy by setting a record for all ships of her class to attempt to surpass. A difficult job of cleaning the ship's bottom preparatory to painting it with anti-corrosive paint and anti-fouling paint was made easy by the splendid cooperation of the first, second, third, fourth, V-1, V-2, and V-3 Divisions.

Four hundred and twenty men from the above divisions worked with a will to set the record of cleaning the ship's bottom in two and one-half days. The previous record for cleaning the bottom of any ship of this class was three days. And not only may the personnel of the INTREPID point with pride at this, their first real accomplishment, as to length of time needed for this operation but they may also put out their chests, figuratively speaking, for the job was not only done speedily, but was done, according to the Portsmouth Master Painter at the shipyard, much better than any previous ship engaged in such an operation at that Yard.

Not only may the Divisions actually engaged in scraping the side be commended for their excellent job, but other Divisions including the R Divisions and all V divisions and the ship's company as a whole contributed whole-heartedly to make this first big assignment, an assignment with which the ship's personnel may justly be proud.

Foresightedness by the Hull Department, under the direction of Commander

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The Ship's Paper of
the U.S.S. INTREPID

Capt. T. L. Sprague, USN
Commanding

Comdr. R. K. Gaines, USN
Executive Officer

Staff

Lt. K. V. Otteson, USNR
Lt. R. J. Benchoff, USNR
Lt.(jg) D. D. Di Marzo, USNR
Ens. G. C. Halcrow, USNR
Ens. V. P. Oleari, USNR
L. W. Vickrey, Yeo.2c.
T. A. McDonald, Prtr.1c.
J. S. Elder, Prtr.3c.
R. A. Bolduc, Sea.1c.

KEEP OFF THE PAINTWORK

Get the H off the paintwork! Ever since there has been a U.S.Navy it has been credited with one very well deserved reputation, namely that navy ships and navy men were the cleanest in the world. It takes a lot of hard work to earn such a reputation, but certainly it is one which is well worth while working for.

Inspections made of this ship's living compartments have revealed the fact that conditions of cleanliness have not at times been all that they should be. While it is true that our Navy Yard period has been a most trying one, with ammunition and stores continuously coming aboard and boxes, crates, and other packing material having to be disposed of, and Navy Yard workers apparently having no other objective but to dirty up the ship in the process of completing their work, still it is believed that the underlying reason for the ship's not being as clean and neat as it should have been at times, is due to the fact that a great number of personnel have not as yet been imbued with the ship's spirit, and feeling that this huge steel monster is their home.

The fact that it is about a city block long, having about ten decks and so huge

that one may easily lose himself in just a small section of it, doesn't alter for one minute the essential fact that this is his home!

When a ship as beautiful as ours, will feed you, bathe you, sleep you, transport you the world over, yes, even fight for you and generally give you all that you need to assure your existence, how can you help but consider it as your home?

Now if we are going to call it home, then let us care for it as we do our own home ashore. We certainly do not throw cigarette butts on the floor at home, nor do we litter the floor of our homes with newspapers, magazines, ice cream cups and other miscellaneous debris. We do not, as a rule, flood our bath rooms with discarded soap and water or hang our clothes on every imaginable piece of furniture in our house, but instead use the conventional clothes lines in the back yard. You have clothes lines on the fore-castle and fantail--use them! Let us keep our hands off clean paintwork, brightwork and other places which may be marked with dirty hands.

On ships of the navy which are manned by experienced, loyal crews, a man takes a real risk when he steps into a compartment outside of his own part of the ship and carelessly puts his hands on the paintwork or the brightwork, or drops something on a clean deck. A chorus of angry voices will generally shout him out with various and sundry invectives and promising the culprit sudden end to a peaceful life if he should ever indulge in such a careless pastime in the future. That reflects pride in the appearance of a ship. Respect for their part of the ship, their home, is demanded by real sailors, and while it is no doubt unnecessary to indulge in violent outbursts of profanity in case a man violates the sanctity of your part of the ship, your home, feel sure that even the Chaplain will forgive us all if we give the culprit a gentle reminder by shouting at him at the tops of our voices: 'Get the H--- off the paintwork.'

CHURCH PROGRAM

Sunday	
Catholic Confession*	0800
Catholic Mass	0900
General Protestant	1000
Monday	
Catholic Mass*	0700
Tuesday	
Catholic Mass*	0700
Wednesday	
Catholic Mass*	0700
Thursday	
Catholic Mass*	0700
Friday	
Catholic Mass*	0700
Jewish Services*	1900
Saturday	
Catholic Mass*	0700
Catholic Confession*	1900

* In ship's library.

COMMISSIONING PRAYER

Almighty God, Who hast called our entire nation to a place of increased responsibility throughout the World, we beseech Thee to look with Thy Divine Favor upon the exercises of this hour.

Bless, O Lord, this vessel which is here commissioned to serve in the Navy of the United States. May her name always be an incentive for those whose privilege it shall be to serve her.

We are mindful of the great tradition in which we stand. We are determined that through **COURAGE, TRUTH, and HONOR**, we shall rededicate and solemnly reconsecrate ourselves to the ideals of righteousness, Tolerance, and Freedom for the World. Toward this ideal we pledge ourselves as we seek Thy blessing upon this vessel.

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A PRAYER FOR THE UNITED NATIONS

By Stephen Vincent Benet

God of the free, we pledge our hearts and our lives today to the cause of free mankind.

Grant us victory over the tyrants who would enslave all free men and nations. Grant us faith and understanding to cherish all those who fight for freedom as if they were our brothers. Grant us brotherhood in hope and union, not only for the space of this bitter war, but for the days to come which shall and must unite all the children of earth.

Our earth is but a small star in the great universe. Yet of it we can make, if we choose, a planet unvexed by war, untroubled by hunger or fear, undivided by senseless distinctions of race, color, or theory. Grant us the courage and foreseeing to begin this task today that our children and our children's children may be proud of the name of man.

Yet most of all grant us brotherhood, not only for this day, but for all our years--a brotherhood not of words but of acts and deeds. We are all of us children of earth--grant us that simple knowledge. If our brothers are oppressed, then we are oppressed. If they hunger, we hunger. If their freedom is taken away our freedom is not secure. Grant us a common faith that man shall know bread and peace--that he shall know justice and righteousness, freedom and security, an equal chance to do his best, not only in our own lands, but throughout the world. And in that faith let us march toward the clean world our hands can make. Amen.

INTREPID SETS RECORD

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P.S. Reynolds, aided immeasurably in making the entire job successful.

The U.S.S. INTREPID is living up to the records previously set by other ships which have borne the same name!

COMMISSIONING PRAYER

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Accept our supplications for those, who in this ship, shall commit their lives to the perils of the deep and to the vast spaces of the sky. Watch over them, we pray, that through all the hazards of this troublesome world they may emerge victorious and will have bestowed upon the generations of the future a World less unworthy to be called Thine.

With an unshakeable determination and an INTREPID SPIRIT may we guide and guard this 'our ship', to the fulfillment of the ideals of humanity and of the best traditions of our beloved Navy.

In our Lord's Name, we pray, Amen.

NAME FOR SHIP'S PAPER TO BE SELECTED

A galaxy of some of the finest words in the English language are synonyms for the name of our ship. INTREPID--bold, undaunted, fearless, resolute, valiant, heroic.

From these words or their meanings, or from connections they may have with famous events it is desired to coin a name for the ship's paper.

All hands interested in submitting recommendations are requested to turn in their choice of a name for the paper to the Chaplain's office prior to 1200 Tuesday, September 28. Final selection of the name will be made by a committee of three officers and three enlisted men.

A prize of \$5.00 will be awarded to the individual who submits the name selected by the committee.

BALL TEAMS START COMPETITION

Two softball teams from the INTREPID worked up an interest in the game while at their land base and named themselves as the first teams to represent this ship in competitive sports. The 'Catapult Crew' and a team from the V-2 division played several intra-ship games while in

CREW BEING GIVEN SWIMMING INSTRUCTION

Breathing is the answer to the potential swimmer's problem. Yes, as long as you can breathe, you can swim. Proper breathing along with a little coordinated muscular activity will maintain an above the water position according to Lt. Ambrose, ship's physical education director.

Work on the classification of INTREPID men into swimmer and non-swimmer groups is nearing completion with approximately 85 percent of the crew graded as to their aquatic ability. The instruction has been carried out in the pool at Barracks 'B' in the Norfolk Navy Yard.

A definite training program has been initiated in an effort to bolster the seaworthiness of the ship's personnel. The special class for non-swimmers has progressed favorably with a decided improvement in the form and endurance of the novice paddlers. However, the instructors have had to contend with a 'sinkable' few, who, due to no fault of their own, cannot stay above the surface. Lack of body buoyancy has been the problem, with the result being nothing more than a headache to the instructors.

Lack of physical conditioning among the men has been evident from the results of various endurance tests administered to them along with the classification. A definite program is now on the way whereby an all out conditioning set-up will keep the ship's men and officers in shape.

wait for an outside opponent that never did appear.

In the final game before weighing anchor the 'Catapult Crew' shut out their V-2 opponents 9-0 in a game played at Paradise Creek.

Have you been fortunate enough to listen to the ship's band tear off some real hot music during the noonday recitals?