

Reptile
FALL, 1986
MARK L. MODI



Oregon State University NROTC

COLONEL'S CORNER

You are all justly proud of yourselves and your Unit.

Your ultimate goals are to earn a baccalaureate degree and to receive a commission in the Naval Service. Those are lofty goals and ones well worth working for. How do you get from here to there? Zero in on academics. Do the important things first. Study hard. Stay ahead. Do not be too proud to ask for help when you do not understand. Use a tutor to help you with the "rough" spots.

With your "academic house" in order, get involved in Unit activities. There is something for everyone and everyone needs to do their share. **YOU** are this Unit and **YOU** make it what it is (or is not).

After all that is done -- jump into University and/or community activities. Well rounded is the name of the game and you get there by doing -- it is not a spectator sport.

Quality wins over quantity every time. Anything worth having is worth working hard for. Never be reluctant to demonstrate your spirit, pride, or dedication. You do that and my goal and your goals will coincide: To graduate and commission highly qualified, well educated young adults to assume leadership positions in the Naval Service.



BATTALION COMMANDER

Fall term has been a busy and productive term for us both individually and as a battalion. I am happy to say that the midshipmen and officer candidates of this battalion have met each challenge presented thus far and have performed in an outstanding manner.

It is important to note that our success is not the work of just a few "hot-runners," but rather it is the result of many dedicated individuals working together as a team. To be sure, the midshipman officers in charge of these events have done a superb job and deserve much credit, but without the enthusiastic support of those "in the trenches," their efforts would be for naught.

Though we can be proud of our accomplishments, it is not yet time to pass the torch. The term is almost over, with finals just around the corner. Now is the time to maximize your efforts and finish out the year strong. The extra time and effort you spend now will make your Christmas vacation a brighter one.

Looking ahead to next year there are many challenges on the horizon, but one looms larger than the rest. We are hosting Northwest Navy this year, which means that not only are we going to sweep the competitions, we are going to show those other schools what being host is all about.

While the Northwest Navy Committee is organizing the events and the various teams will take part in the competition, every member of the battalion will have the opportunity to get involved one way or another. This is a huge project and the only way we can pull this off is by everyone pulling their weight and working together as a team.

So have a safe and happy holidays, and be ready to come back and hit it hard.



QMC(SW) J.E. ROSE

He is a surface qualified Quartermaster Chief with thirteen years in the Navy aboard tugs and tin cans and now he is here to teach the Junior class how to get from Point A to Point B without running into anything, like an island, boat, or submarine.

QMC (SW) J.E. ROSE, SR. comes to OSU by way of the USS MERRILL (DD-976), stationed in San Diego. He really enjoys the fun-filled opportunities the Navy allows him for moving his wife of fourteen years, Janie, and their four leaves, I mean children, John, Jennifer, Kenneth, and Kirsten.

His official job is to assist the staff NUCSUB, LT FARKAS, by teaching surface navigation of vessels but his unofficial job is that of all staff personnel, to teach the middies how to be better officers. He does this by arranging such projects as the Naval Aviation recruiting trailer stopping by campus and coaching the UNKNOWNNS to victory in the IM football league.

When asked what he likes best about working in the Navy, he thought a moment then replied, "The people."

MIDN 2/c T.M. FITZGERALD



SSGT L.K. HAYS

Back in 1983, during Northwest Navy, SSGT L.K. HAYS liked what he saw at OSU so much that he applied to come here after his tour of duty was over. He has been a part of the Unit staff as Assistant Marine Option Instructor since last June.

Originally from Arkansas, the thirty-one year old Staff Sargent attributes his initial choice to become a Marine to a recruiter that had a unique sense of style and class. On 28 MAY 73 Lawrence K. Hays enlisted into the Marine Corps, thus ending his plans to attend Arkansas State University. He saw his first tour of duty aboard the USS PROTEUS, home ported out of Guam.

In June of 78 SSGT HAYS hung up his stripes to attend Mira Costa College. He missed the Marine Corp so much that he re-enlisted less than a year later.

The Staff Sargent is married and has a three year old son. He considers his most valuable contribution to be assisting in the shaping of future Marine officers, and being able to provide them with the perspective of an experienced enlisted person.

MIDN 4/c D.A. WILKENING



SKC L.D. TAYLOR

There is a new face in the supply loft this year. The new face belongs to SKC TAYLOR, who is taking over the loft with the departure of SKC HENDERSON.

SKC TAYLOR was born and raised in Coos Bay, OR. In 1969, he entered boot camp to begin his naval career as an enlisted man. He served one tour of duty at Naval Support Activity in Saigon during the Vietnam Conflict from 1969 to 1970.

SKC TAYLOR chose to come to OSU because of the closeness to his hometown, Coos Bay. He has worked in Naval Support Units of one form or another the entire sixteen years of his career. SKC TAYLOR's sixteen years of experience in the supply field will be very useful during his stay at the unit. We are sure it also means he will do an excellent job. If you ever have some spare time, visit the Chief, he is a great guy. WELCOME ABOARD, CHIEF TAYLOR! MIDN 4/c C.F. HOFFER

NEW STAFF

LT SOCHA, the unit's new senior instructor, comes to us from Milwaukee via the P-3 community. He went to college at the University of Wisconsin, where he majored in Recreation Management and Physical Education. After flight school he was sent to NAS Jacksonville until his shore duty, when he was sent here. LT SOCHA is the only OSU staff member who participated in the Libyan strike, in a patrol role. He is still a bachelor, ladies, so try to set your hooks! LT SOCHA a pilot, an intelligent version of the Incredible Hulk, and he is in uniform! We welcome LT SOCHA as an addition to the unit staff.



LT G.L. SOCHA

Perhaps you have seen the new figure that poses as the junior instructor at our unit. He is LT FARKAS, a Long Island, NY native who received a Marine Biology degree from University of South Carolina. In college, he played soccer, was a member of Pi Mu Epsilon (a math honors program), and made the prestigious list of Who's Who of American Colleges in 1981.

LT FARKAS joined the Navy five-and-a-half years ago and survived Nuclear Power School along with duty on two boomers: USS SIMON BOLIVAR (SSBN-641 GOLD), and the USS MARIANO G. VALLEJO (SSBN-658 GOLD). Then, the happily married LT moved his wife and two children to Corvallis, where he was impressed by "such a strong ROTC unit."

LT FARKAS' future aspirations include having fun during his two years at OSU, getting his MBA, and eventually commanding his own sub. Meanwhile, the energetic and witty instructor described himself as being "busier than a one-legged man in a [donkey] kicking contest." He also bestowed some highly philosophical advice when he said, "There are only two types of ships: subs and targets... KNOW NUKES!" He has particular advice to freshmen: "If you want to keep the doors to your future open, get the best grades possible during your first quarter. Your grades will have a great bearing on your future career path."

By the way, LT, is it true that you are a NY Mets fan? "A DIEHARD fan," he replied with a grin, "since I was knee-high to Tom Thumb!"

MIDN 3/c D.P. RAUSCHE



YNC J.J. NEWBOLD

YNC JEFF J. NEWBOLD has been the Unit Personnel Officer since May. In his twenty-second year of naval service, OSU NROTC is his seventeenth duty station. Enlisting in 1964, Chief Newbold has seen service at Great Lakes, IL; Brunswick, ME; Seoul, South Korea; Sasebo and Yokosuka, Japan; Treasure Island, Port Hueneme, San Bruno, Moffett Field, Alameda, and Monterey, CA; as well as aboard the USS WADSWORTH (FFG-9) and USS MAHLON S. TISDALE (FFG-27).

We welcome the Chief's experience and outstanding example of a hard-working staffer.

MIDN 4/c S.E. LANGLEY



LT K.W. FARKAS



MIDN GALEAI conversing with Birthday Ball date.



MIDN SMIETANSKI checks over Birthday Ball volunteers.



MIDN FARACE, BECKER AND BURK have "Lost that Lovin' reeling."

Birthday Ball

On 5 NOV 86 at the Corvallis Elk's Lodge, the United States Navy and Marine Corps celebrated their two-hundred and eleventh birthday.

The festivities started at 1900 with the traditional receiving line, after which the birthday ceremony started at 1940 with MIDN 1/c J.S. BOWMAN acting as master of ceremonies. First, there were the birthday messages from the Commandant of the Marine Corps and the Chief of Naval Operations. Then came the traditional cake cutting ceremony with the youngest and oldest members of the Naval services getting the first pieces of cake and approving of it for consumption. A final greeting from the Master of Ceremonies at 2000 signaled the Calvin Walker Band to commence playing.

As is typical of most official functions, the formality wore down soon after the dancing begun. Before long, the coats were off and the ties were undone as the new freshmen experienced their first of many Naval balls.

As usual, there was fun to be had for all and a long line for pictures. All of the volunteers should be thanked and congratulated on a job well done.

MIDN 4/c G.L. HICKS

USN & USMC CAKE CUTTING

211 years of pride and professionalism were celebrated this year. The Navy and Marine Corps birthdays were recognized in the Unit's time-honored fashion of a 1200 quarterdeck ceremony with the past, present and future members of the Armed Forces in attendance.

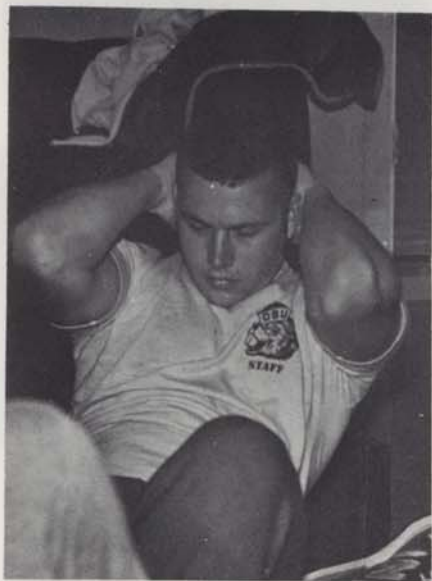
13 OCT found CAPT. D. SIMPSON, USN (Ret) and MIDN 4/c B.A. FORTUNE as the oldest and youngest navy personnel waiting the cake at the head of a Navy sword arch after the Commander had read aloud the Chief of Naval Operations, ADM C.A.H. TROST's birthday greetings.

Three weeks later Marine Options and their guests were celebrating the 10 NOV anniversary of the founding of the Marine Corps. The annual video tape of the Commandant of the Marine Corps was shown followed by the recitation of the 1922 directive of John A. LeJeune, a former commandant. MIDN T.M. GROSHONG and COL C. LARSON represented the bright future and proud past of the Marines as they stood in front of a Marine option sword arch awaiting their turn.

MIDN 2/c T. M. FITZGERALD



Past, present, and future Marines join to celebrate the 211th Birthday.



BN XO demonstrates how to sleep

Fall PFT

It all began the usual way -- grey, overcast and rainy. Zero-dark:30 found sections of the battalion wandering through the unit on their way to do sit-ups or pull-ups. When the first two exercise were done they started everyone's favorite, the three mile run in Oregon's trademark drizzle.

Later in the day, the battalion met at Avery Park for athletics. This year's events were formatted with a military relay theme. Once again HQ company emerged victorious.

Then it was up to the picnic tables to join family and friends in that famous Events Committee chili and refreshments. Scores and performances were discussed as goals for next spring's PFT were set.

MIDN 2/c T.M. FITZGERALD



BN staff breeze thru PFT sit-ups



MIDN 1/c SPILSBURY and OC SPEAR reflect on their own Rookie-O.

Blood Drive

This fall's blood drive was a great change from ordinary life for all who donated blood or worked assisting the Red Cross operation. The midshipmen workers did an outstanding job directing the procession of life-givers.

Donors, for the most part, said that they were eager givers. MIDN 2/c W.J. BECKER, a veteran of nearly three gallons, said that he felt really good about giving blood. With a broad grin, MIDN 4/c G.A. MCGREW called the experience "great!" as did two-gallon OC D.S. KUNZMAN.

An exception was first-timer MIDN 4/c K.A. ANDERSON. Before entering the MU, she said nervously, "This is going to be awful." After the experience, her opinion remained unchanged.

For those of you who missed this life-saving opportunity, or want to give again, the Red Cross will be back in January.

MIDN 4/c S.E. LANGLEY



MIDN PHAM. WADSWORTH, and BECKER partake of Events Committee chili



One final check before the needle goes into MIDN JOHNSON.



Rookie-O '86 formed up and ready to go.



Freshmen enjoy uniform fitting at the beginning of Rookie-O week.

1986 ROOKIE ORIENTATION



MIDN HEIND digs deep to get up the rope.

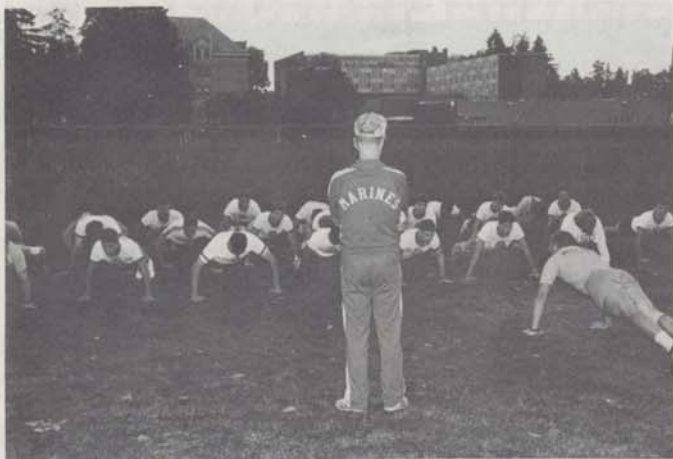
Just as I was about to feed in an air-to-air missile target solution for the Libyan MIG-25 Foxbat I was pursuing, a loud alarm went off inside the cockpit. Naturally, my pilot's instinct told me that a missile was locked onto my aircraft, but something else was wrong. Everything was shaking and my vision began to fade. The aerial combat arena was soon replaced by the bright glare of the bedroom light and the loud buzzing of an alarm. The time was 0500 and all I wanted to do was to go back to sleep and dream of the future glories. Thus, I began Rookie Orientation Week for the Midshipmen Class of 1990.

Now that I look back, I feel that the week went fast and that it was not as bad as it seemed. I learned a lot about myself, and not all of it was good. I spent

most of my summer training for the PFT, and very little time on my swimming. The result was that I passed the Junior class requirements for the PFT and was ranked a third class swimmer. Everybody discovered some area that they needed to improve. Rookie-O was definitely a learning experience.

I thought that all of the midshipmen, squad, platoon, and battalion officers did a superb job in their handling of the training. I do, however, feel that the battalion officers need to be a little less intimidating and more friendly. After all, we are all in the same unit and will be spending a lot of time together. I hope to make my years as a midshipman the best time of my life and to eventually become a damned good Naval Officer and aviator.

MIDN 4/c C.F. HOFFER



...and one for the Colonel!

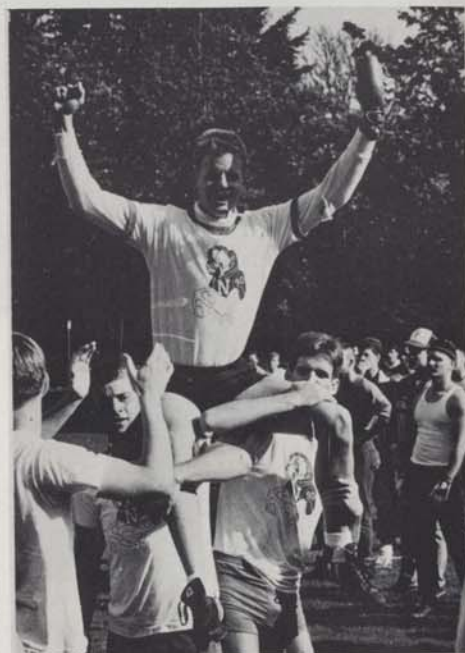


MIDN LANGLEY and SANDERS respond to "Are we having fun yet?"

OSU NROTC



Freshmen prove they are "Best in the West and all the Rest".



MIDN HIMSTREET carried by victorious freshmen.

WELCOMES NEW FROSH

On Monday, 22 SEP 86 at 1100, I walked into the Oregon State NROTC unit for the very first time. I expected a simple one hour check-in, but five hours later, when I was finally allowed to leave, I had a haircut, parts of my uniform, and was exhausted. All the while I asked myself if there could have been a better way.

I had to return to Gill Coliseum the next day for PT. I was lined up with the other rookies in our respective companies, platoons, and squads. We were then led through a warm-up and a brisk two and one-half mile run. After we were cooled down, we were dismissed for breakfast and told to muster outside Forum East.

Once there we were filed in and seated for a series of usually interesting lectures. We learned all about uniform maintenance, military courtesy, and Navy rules and regulations. We were introduced to so many of the staff at one time it was hard to keep track of them all. When the lectures were over, we were dismissed for lunch with instructions to muster inside MacAlexander Field House for our first taste of drill.

That was how we would spend the next three days -- PT, lectures, and drill. My world became the unit, Forum East, and Mac. As far as I knew that was all there was to OSU.

Thursday, we replaced the run with a swim test. Most people did not know what to expect. Due to lack of practice and the fact that the hardest test was saved for last, many people failed. We were able to get revenge on our squad leaders by throwing them into the pool after the test was over.

On Friday, we were able to put our workouts to good use during the mock PFT. We did our sit-ups and pull-ups, then we hit the streets of Corvallis for a three mile run. Only this time we had to run at our own pace and we were not lead through the pace-keeping chants of our platoon leaders.

The whole week was capped in Gill, where we were treated to an exhibition of HQ company. Although they claimed to have had very little practice they still looked sharp. Finally, and most importantly, we were sworn in as midshipmen.



MIDN 2/c WILCZYNSKI demonstrates life saving maneuver on MIDN 3/c MARTIN.



Drill Team rook, MIDN 4/c HIMSTREET, learns the importance of the individual to the team.



0530 find motivated freshmen drill teamers at work.

Drill Team

The Drill Team has been practicing hard since the beginning of the year. Already, the new freshmen are learning the exhibition phase.

The hard working freshmen include: MIDN 4/c HIMSTREET, TAYLOR, THOMPSON, DYKES, CHAMBERS, NELSON, MCCORMICK, HEINO, MAGEDMAN, BANKS, HINKLE, and STUEVE.

These motivated midshipmen have participated in the annual Drill Team swim on the Willamette River in late October, as well as the Veteran's Day Parades in November. You will also see the team participate in various sword arches, such as the one at the Birthday Ball.

The Drill Team has the potential to accomplish great things this year and they are already learning faster than any team before. The Drill Team encourages the Battalion to stay motivated and to get involved. SWEEP NORTHWEST NAVY!!

MIDN 2/c M.R. BIONDI



OSU NROTC Color Guard #1 after Albany Day Parade.



Drum and Bugle show their stuff in Albany parade.

D&B CORPS

I think it is safe to say without fear of founded contradiction that this years freshmen are real go-getters, and none personify this "look out world" image better than those who have joined the Drum & Bugle Corps this year.

Some are experienced musicians, some are just plain motivated, but all are tenacious, hardworking people -- you need to be to drag yourself to Gill Coliseum when the only people up at that time are thieves, security guards and KBVR DJ's.

Passing the first battery of tests, the Albany and Lebanon Parades, the team is ready to start on its exhibition phase.

This years outstanding freshmen are Midn 4/c SCHUMACHER, SEIFERT, "Klingon" BEATON, "PT" AUSTIN, CONYAC, WINDLE, "Goat ropin'" MILLS, FIELD and "Hips" LEONARD. MIDN 2/c T.M. FITZGERALD



Precision pays off -- MIDN HOY holds one of the three Albany Day trophies.



Early morning drill takes its toll on Color Guard.

COLOR GUARD

Like the other HQ teams, Color Guard has found itself knee deep in freshmen.

MIDN 4/c BOSLEY, CARLIN, CAMPANELLA, BRAUDT, YOUNGER, MONTGOMERY, KUHN, ANDERSON, and JOHNSON have become a part of the winning tradition and are in hot pursuit of excellence. The early-morning practices across an empty fieldhouse from their Air Force counterparts have made them very eager to learn what it means to be "The Best in the West and all the Rest."

As with all the marching teams, the freshmen's debut at the Veteran's Day Parades in Albany and Lebanon were a huge success and the harbinger of great things to be seen in the months to come.

MIDN 2/c T.M. FITZGERALD



OSU NROTC marching teams form the Albany Day vanguard.

PISTOL TEAM

The pistol team is back in action this year and the dynasty continues under the new leadership of team commander MIDN LT(jg) THUAN "PHAMBO" PHAM and his executive officer MIDN ENS DAN "I want to be a nuke someday" CHRISTOFFERSON.

The team had its largest turnout to date this fall with twenty-eight new freshmen desiring to become full-fledged members. Unfortunately, due to a limited number of pistols only twelve new freshmen could be kept. After acquainting the rookies with the weapons and teaching them the basics, a try-out match was held to determine who had the "right stuff" to become a "top-gun" on the pistol team. The members of this years incoming freshmen class who survived the grueling try-outs are: MIDN 3/c RACHE, MIDN 4/c ANDERSON, MARTIN, WADDLE, CUNDITH, LACHNITE, SORIANO, CALIOVA, SULLIVAN, UNDERHILL, and WALLIS.

The team's first match this year will be against University of Washington during December, and, as usual, a crushing victory is expected for OSU.

MIDN 2/c K.H. BECKER

THIRD CLASS CRUISE

Upon arrival at the San Diego airport, I saw many other midshipmen arriving for their cruises. I met up with another 3/c midshipman from University of Washington. We decided that two lost midshipmen look better than one, so we stuck together.

With only nine days to spend in sunny San Diego, we cruised through Mission and Coronado Beaches as often as possible. This was easy since, we only spent half of each working day aboard the USS LEAHY (CG-16), and then were on liberty until 0700, when we had quarters.

The LEAHY took two one-day cruises before the WESTPAC. The first cruise was to test all the systems aboard, and the second was a dependents cruise. These trial runs gave me a false sense of having "sea-legs" because of the calm water and settled stomach.

Then came the day of departure for our six month cruise which brought many misty-eyed wives and girlfriends to the pier to say good-bye. I felt sorry for the crew, but it is part of the "adventure" we signed up for.

We headed north to the Bering Sea, then south along the Russian coast toward Japan. The monotony of sea duty was broken by an occasional glimpse of ocean life, such as whales, dolphins, sharks, and flying fish. The Captain added to the fun by firing an ASROC missile and the Phalynx gun a few times. The crew in my berthing compartment needed some excitement too, and who better than us mid-dies to be the target of such fun? I was graciously initiated by being awarded a painful belly slapping -- otherwise known as a "pink belly." This was definitely not the highlight of my summer, but I expected it.

When we arrived in Sasebo, Japan, the crew raced off the ship to sight-see and drink sake. Fortunately for my wallet, I only spent two days there. My enjoyable stay in Japan was largely due to the very polite and courteous people living there.

On my flight state-side, I encountered the International Date Line, which made my actual twenty-four hours of return travel time look like eight. Needless to say, I arrived on my stateside doorstep a very exhausted, pink-bellied, and slightly salted middle.

MIDN 3/c T.J. ALLEN

CORTRAMID

In an effort to avoid being mundane, I will hit the high points of my four weeks at CORTRAMID.

SURFACE WEEK -- A pretty active seven days. I discovered how to plug holes in bulkheads despite the resistance, not the water, I am talking about the other midshipmen. I also discovered that the most advanced computers used in the Surface Navy are employed in bridge simulators, seriously. I found a middle volleyball team that needed a setter and we went 50+ and 0. Oh, and I saw fireworks, probably from too much revelry at the end of the week.

SUBMARINE WEEK -- An inactive week. I went to a lot of places in a hurry and waited. I was incarcerated in the USS PERMIT for a day and a half, and I saw a lot in the first three hours. I did find that there was very little space. I slept on a bookshelf, maybe smaller.

AVIATION WEEK -- I wish it had been a year. A few select midshipmen were selected to go to Moffett Field, NAS, where we flew the Navy's largest Harpoon-armed tactical aircraft, the P-3C Orion. (ooh-rah!). On one of my flights we located the black spot on a hill where the Air Force discovered that F-20's do not tunnel well. We laughed and roared by at a dash speed of about 300 knots.

MARINE WEEK -- A happy time, the last day. They tried hard and we worked hard. It was never boring, we were too tired to care if it was. I, of all people, who borders on lunacy when it comes to weapons, managed to get an M-16A2 that would not fire in burst mode. This week was filled with more noise than I care to recall, but I like explosions, too. We all went to Disneyland and saw T.R.A.H.B. If you know what it means, you went, too.

Ah, youth. Pleasant memories fill my gray streaked head. CORTRAMID will be one of those memories, someday. Remember that volleyball team? We also creamed the "undefeated" Marine Staff in eight straight games.

MIDN 2/c J.H. ECCLESTON

FIRST CLASS

My first class cruise was definitely an experience! I was scheduled to go on a WESTPAC with the USS NEW JERSEY (BB-62). The fun started long before I left the U.S.A. A couple of us from OSU were on a seven hour lay-over in Oakland, CA, awaiting a MAC flight to Okinawa, so MIDN SMETANSKI and I jumped on the BART, and headed into downtown San Francisco. Bad luck hit us and we almost missed our flight. What a way to start. Once airborne, we sat back and enjoyed a thirteen hour flight to Kadena AFB, Okinawa. After a six hour check in and a night on the town, my cruise had officially begun.

In the true Navy tradition, on our first day aboard, the Midshipman Training Officer informed us that we would not be debarking on 9 SEP, but 19 SEP. Lucky us! The NEW JERSEY is a great mix of the old with the new, and during that month we steamed as Battle Group Romeo with a DD, FFG, CGN, and an AOR.

While on board, I saw Sasebo, Japan, complete with a MASSIVE protest by some of the locals; the A-bomb site in Nagasaki, Japan; and Pusan, Inchon, and Seoul, Korea. One of the most exciting parts was when we met up with the Ranger Carrier Group and became a Battle Force. We then proceeded to cruise off the Russian coast near Vladivostok, their largest naval base to, show them we were not scared. We were overflown by F-4's, F-14's, F-16's, F-18's, A-6's, and a couple of Russian Badgers and Bears. To top it all off, Kimpo Airport in Seoul was bombed by terrorists two days before we left. What a cruise!

MIDN 1/c W.D. OWENS



HIGHLITES OF FALL TERM 1986



Midshipman date sitting out a dance.



MIDN MENGELBERG models the latest in trendy civilian attire.



After a hard day's work, freshmen chow down at Savaker Picnic.



MIDN "Iceman" DEBORD pauses for publicity shot.



SSTG WOLF receives promotion and a "B2" from the Colonel.

Professor of Naval Science
COLONEL R.G. LEIDICH, USMC

Executive Officer
COMMANDER T.G. ROBERTSON, USN

MISPERCEPTIONS SET STRAIGHT

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Staff PAO	LT M.H. LINDSAY, USN

Baby killers and war mongers. Are we really being trained to napalm children? It seems that certain factions of the community feel this is true. Editorials in the local newspapers and in our own RIPTIDE CURRENT say that the Unit is making midshipmen into amoral characters, prepared to maim and kill without conscience. They feel that our mission is to fight, kill, harass granolas, and otherwise restrict human rights. Is this really why we are here? I think not.

I do not know about you, but I think that the military exists for different reasons. We are here, not to restrict free speech or other constitutional rights, but to guarantee that those rights will still exist for the next generation. We train, not so we can kill, but so that we will not have to. We are here, not to promote war, but to promote peace. If it was not for the power of the Navy, the wisdom of its leaders, and the strength of its men and women, then this nation would not be as great. Americans would not live near as well. The entire free world could not be as free were it not for the assistance we give it. Most of Europe would be flying the swastika and much more of Asia the hammer and sickle, were it not for Naval deliverance.

We have secured our freedom for now, but to insure that we have our freedoms in the future we must convince any possible opposition that their loss in taking from us will be much greater than any possible gain. We must all convince them that our allies can count on the the same protection that our citizens can. We stand prepared to defend.

Granted, the Armed Forces have made their share of mistakes, just as any organization will, but we have saved more than we have destroyed. We have gained more than we have lost. The 'people of the Navy and Marine Corps know that in their voluntary sacrifice of life, America will remain a bulwark of freedom and democracy, a beacon of hope and peace.

MIDN ENS C.B. WEBSTER
RIPTIDE EDITOR

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RIPTIDE