Based upon the different interesting and challenging positions of authority that Colonel Stein has experienced, he decided to make the Marine Corps a career somewhere between commisioning in 1956 and now. Once you’ve found a good thing, stick with it. SEMPER FIDELIS. While serving at Marine Corps Headquarters he felt that, due to the challenge and the far reaching effects of his work as projects officer, this was his most rewarding duty assignment.

COLONEL STEIN considers the most important goal to reach here at OSU NROTC to be "get your degree." As a member of the battalion though, he recommends that you "be a solution, not a problem." He sees no reward for those that "hide in the herd." In order to have the best opportunities, junior officers should be aggressive in construing and accomplishing their duties. "Do more than required." To emphasize this point, the Colonel quoted a familiar passage, "Seek responsibility and take responsibility for your actions. Where have you heard that one before?

Colonel Stein's military experience has prepared him to be an effective manager in the areas of finance, personnel, supply, and maintenance. He intends to start his new career in one of these areas. He states that an ensign at age 22 has more responsibility than a civilian doing a comparable job. The Colonel does not expect to find in his civilian career the challenges and responsibility that was present while serving in the Marine Corps. When asked what his future goals were, he replied, "Find a patch of dragons and kill them." Watch out dragons, the Colonel is on the move! No matter what kind of dragons he finds, the experience and knowledge gained while serving our country will be his best armament for accomplishing his goals. GOOD LUCK!

I would like to express my appreciation for all the good effort the outgoing battalion staff put in. They worked hard in order to accomplish the leadership tasks set before them.

I look forward to serving with you in the fleet someday. I will be a part of that elite Naval Force hunting in the depths of the oceans, trailing the enemy when he least expects it. GO SUBS!

I will each of you the best in life and your future careers.

COLONEL'S CORNER

30 June 1986 marks the end of 30 years as a Marine and the beginning of retirement. They were years filled with excitement (sometimes too much excitement), challenge and a deeply satisfying sense of achievement and fulfillment. If I could do it over I would wish only that the end might not come so soon.

The first 26 years were great but could not measure up to the enjoyment of these 4 years as CO of the Best in the West and the Reet. It has been my good fortune to ride the crest of the wave with you.

Thanks to all of you for a marvelous finale. I envy you your future.

COLONEL MICHAEL E. STEIN USMC

IN SEARCH OF DRAGOONS

During the summer break, an important event will take place that affects everyone associated with OSU NROTC. COL M.E. STEIN is scheduled to retire on 30 JUN 86. Whatever feelings this event may arouse, the wisdom gained from thirty years experience in the Marine Corps must be sought out and put to good use. An interview with Colonel Stein was scheduled to uncover his innermost thoughts on these topics: his military career, advice to those who would choose a military career, and the Colonel's future goals. Read on and find the answer to the question, "What does this have to do with dragons?"

OUTGOING BATTALION COMMANDER

The 1985-86 school year has been a busy, challenging and rewarding experience for all of us. As you look back at your accomplishments you should feel a great deal of pride. Each one of you has worked very hard this year. It is this kind of hard work and dedication that will make you an outstanding officer in the Naval Services.

HEADS UP!

For those lucky people who will be returning to OSU NROTC fall term, do not be surprised to find a new commanding officer. That's right, COL R.G. LEIDICH, his wife Nancy, daughter Cindy, and son Ronnie, will be settling into their new home in Corvallis during the summer. In line with the Albatross policy of giving you a "heads up" on the news, and shedding light on all the scuttlebutt, here is a biography of your future commanding officer, COL LEIDICH.

COL LEIDICH holds the following Military Occupation Specialties, MOS: 9906 - Ground Officer, 0362 - Infantry Officer, and 0100 - Adjutant. He is currently assigned as Assistant Chief of Staff, Manpower, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Okinawa, Japan. He has been involved in combat operations in the Republic of Vietnam. His decorations include: Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V", Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, and the Combat Action Ribbon.
COL LEIDICH has also attended a number of military schools during his career: The Basic School, Marine Corps Development and Education Command, Quantico, VA. - 1959; Marine Corps Amphibious Warfare School, - 1971; Marine Corps Command and Staff College, - 1973; and the Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Carlisle, PA. - 1982.

As far as civilian education goes, COL LEIDICH holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminology from the University of California, Berkeley, CA. - 1959. He also has a Master’s Degree in Public Administration from Shippensburg State College, Shippensburg, PA. - 1982.

For those handball fanatics, it is rumored that the Colonel enjoys a game of handball now and then. So during summer vacation sharpen your handball skills and be ready to challenge the new commanding officer to a game when you return in the fall.

OC J.E. HARKLERoad

LT David G. Shafer

“UNIT STAFF... DEPARTING”

As the end of the school year approaches, we once again must say good-bye to those members of the unit staff who will be leaving us.

LT DAVID F. DARNELL, (a.k.a. "Crash and Burn"), the senior class instructor, will take time off from the unit to earn his MBA here at OSU. Afterward, he will be going on a disassociated sea tour as an aviation officer hopefully aboard a LHA or LPH. LT DARNELL has found pleasure in the teaching and interacting with students and feels that he has worked with one of the best commanding officers he has or ever will work with.

LT DAVID G. SHAFER, the junior instructor, will also be pursuing his MBA at OSU. He will then leave for Groton, Connecticut, to attend Submarine Officer Advanced Course. LT SHAFER is looking forward to becoming a department head in either navigation, engineering, or weapons. He feels that OSU has been a very rewarding tour in which he has learned a lot and enjoyed working with the midshipmen.

GUNNERY SERGEANT JAMES O. COAN will be going back to the Fleet Marine Force after his duty here as Assistant Marine Officer Instructor. He will be the company gunnery sergeant for First Battalion, Fifth Marine Regiment stationed at Camp Pendleton, California. To the Gunny, being stationed at OSU has been a totally "unique" experience.

YN1 Carlos E. Posadas

GMSMC Jack W. Alford

QMSC JACK W. ALFORD will be leaving us to do one last sea tour aboard the USS REED, FFG 30, as the navigation officer. While serving as the assistant junior class instructor, Senior Chief used the opportunity to further his education and as a result will be receiving his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration this June.

Last but not least, YN1 CARLOS E. POSADAS will be retiring from the navy after twenty years of service. He is planning on moving his family to Portland where he will embark on a second career, with the U.S. Postal Service.

MIDN 3/C T.H. PHAN & T.M FITZGERALD
BEAVERS GO TO SAN ANTONIO

Hundreds of thousands of people stood up and cheered as the marching teams of our OSU NROTC passed in review in San Antonio, Texas.

We were honored to spearhead the first parade, held on Friday 25 APR. The teams earned their pay during the 3-mile organized hike in Texas' muggy afternoon sun. In return for an hour-and-a-half of intensive sweat, each member earned a souvenir: personalized blisters.

After kicking off Saturday morning with a performance in front of the Alamo, our teams posed for a group picture in front of the tourist attraction. Passers-by clamored to shoot their own souvenirs pictures of the Navy in white at the historical sight. It was like a touch of Hollywood in Texas.

Speaking of Hollywood, MIDN 2/C DONNIE OWENS stopped every pretty girl he saw to pose with him for his scrapbook photos. I wonder what kind of stories he will attach when he shows these pictures to his grandchildren.

Saturday evening, we marched in both the vanguard and the parade body of San Antonio's Fiesta main event: the evening parade.

The Air Force C-130 planes were not as cooperative, unfortunately. It seems every time we had a plane scheduled, an important politician (Vice President Bush) ousted us or the mechanics were still troubleshooting electrical or other serious difficulties. Subsequently, we spent much of our time sitting in stationary buses.

True military fashion. Hurry up and wait.

Actually, the more adventurous sailors were already accustomed to this routine. San Antonio's river walk was lined with many small bars and cafes. It was a scenic winding of interesting people, tales, and refreshments. The Fiesta made the town bustle with energy. I am sure that its fond memories will live on in the hearts of midshipmen and officer candidates for a long time.

OSU NROTC represented at the Alamo.

J.T. RUNNER

A few of the 350,000 Texan onlookers show their appreciation.

P.A. SPILLSBURY

Drill Team precision at work.

T.S. STOUT

D&B precision section takes a break in front of the Alamo.

J.T. RUNNER

planes, and in airport terminals. Fortunately, the evening hours were free for Mexican food and tequila consumption.

QC T.S. STOUT & MIDN 3/C T.M. FITZGERALD
BATTALION WOODCUT

The first weekend of April provided sunny skies over McDonald Forest for the annual NROTC woodcut. The entire playful, but hard working unit split the work load by having 1st and 2nd companies work on Saturday, while 3rd and HQ companies finished the 27-cord weekend on Sunday.

Frequent work-breaks were had by some midshipmen, but our Battalion Commander, MIDN CAPT C.A. GUNZEL, decided to get his "break" in early Saturday. He discovered that his leg would not hold up the tree he was cutting, so he took the rest of the weekend off! Meanwhile, the work continued as the human-chain of "Mids" and OC's kept the wood piled and the trucks loaded, so deliveries could be made to community residents.

The annual event raised an estimated $3,000 for Taifrail, which funds such unit activities as the Birthday Ball, the King Dance, Northwest Navy, and Battalion athletics.

"OH-RAH" PFT '86

The last PFT of the year finally got underway on 10 MAY, after being postponed due to the weather. Sleepy eyes and a few mild hangovers showed up bright and early to eagerly prove their amazing physical agility, durability, and stamina.

First, sit-ups, pull-ups and arm hangs were done to the cheers of encouragement by fellow midshipmen. Then, it was time for the real fun to begin with the three mile run.

The Ferraris and Jaguars set the quick pace, while the Volswagens and Pintos brought up the rear. Getting the checkered flag for their perfect 300 PFT score were the following Midshipmen and Officer Candidates: C.A. White, S.A. Magliano, A.L. Rondeau, G.D. Trafis, K.T. Holm, and R.A. Crawford. Some Marines were unable to participate on Saturday due to their MOPEX expedition.

Much to the disappointment of the unit members, the previously scheduled (and postponed) battalion athletics and picnic were again canceled due to the impecable timing of the rain! From classified reports I later gathered, most of the unit members took it upon themselves to go home and diligently study Naval Science anyway. That's dedication!!

MIDN JOHNSON working on the chain gang. J.W. HAGERTY

As MIDN MAGLIANO and HARRYMAN know, intense concentration prevents accidents. J.W. HAGERTY

MIDN MONROE digs down deep for one last sit-up. S.M. FISHER

C.E. Crabtree, R.P. Johnson, S.A. Magliano, A.L. Rondeau, G.D. Trafis, K.T. Holm, and R.A. Crawford. Some Marines were unable to participate on Saturday due to their MOPEX expedition.

The 1986 spring PFT's three mile run begins.

MIDN 4/C D.P. RAUSCHE

MIDN 4/C D.P. RAUSCHE
The warm afternoon of 16 May saw the NROTC Unit as a dazzling mass of crisp summer whites amid the Air Force's blues and the Army's greens. Since I was a participant, I have to rely on the rather biased opinion of Colonel STEIN, who said, "You out shone them (the other ROTC units), and not by a small margin either..."

This exercise in inter-military cooperation was first practiced in 1951, under the title of Tri-Service Review but received a new title this year. Jointly represented are the four services -- Navy, Marine Corp, Army, and Air Force.

After the presentation of the units and the colors, the awards for the most outstanding midshipmen and cadets were presented by Major General Richard MILLER, the state adjutant, and OSU President John BYRNE. It was to this representation of tomorrow's military leaders that President BYRNE directed his standard patriotic/military/ROTC speech. The ceremony's finale was a motivational pass-in-review dominated by the excellent marching of our battalion.

That evening was the annual Governor's Ball. The formal military traditions were honored, then in this relaxed atmosphere the cadets and midshipmen got a chance to talk, dance and generally socialize with each other.

Joint Service Review for this year fulfilled its purpose of inter-service support and cooperation, traits to be used in the real world, as well as allowing the midshipmen and cadets a chance to get to know each other.

MIDN VAIL receives the Bowler Award from MAJOR GENERAL MILLER.

MIDN 3/c T.M. FITZGERALD
AWARDS!

The annual Spring Award ceremony was on Tuesday, May 13, and recognized some outstanding midshipmen in the battalion. Friends and relatives looked on proudly as the midshipmen were presented awards for community involvement, academic achievement, and unit excellence. Congratulation to the well deserved midshipmen.

General Awards:

E.A. Carlson
A.R. Barkman
J.V. Betechart
R.K. Bevans
G.R. Hilberg
D.W. Schorries
T.N. Pham
M.A. Phillips
H.J. Sowa
Freshman Awards:

A.R. Gamon
R.N. Lee
J. Soto
MROTC Staff Award
Skeever Award
Military Order of World War Award
of Merit
Sophomore Awards:

S.W. Aabury
J.V. Betechart
D.W. Mcherrlues
A.L. Roneau
B.A. Shevchuck
National Sojourner Award
Society of the War of 1812 Award
McAlexander Reserve Officers Assn. Award
MROTC Staff Award
Military Order of World War Award
of Merit
Junior Awards:

J.M. Wilczynski
A.R. Barkman
K.L. Van Order
G.L. Hannon
Reserve Officers Assn. Achievement Award
Veterans of Foreign Wars Award
Reserve Officers Assn. Achievement Award
BATTALION CO
BATTALION XO
BATTALION OPS
LOGISTICS
SUPPLY
COMPUTER OFFICER
FISCAL AFFAIRS
PERSONNEL
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
HEADQUARTERS CO
RIFLE TEAM CO
PISTOL TEAM CO
DRILL TEAM CO
COLOR GUARD CO
1st COMPANY CO
2nd COMPANY CO
3rd COMPANY CO
OC TUTT
MIDN HILBERG
MIDN SPILSBURY
MIDN ESTANG
MIDN PARKS
OC MCVICKER
MIDN WILCZYNISKI
MIDN GARRIDO
OC SPEAR
MIDN OWENS
MIDN MCMORRIES
MIDN PHAM
MIDN BIONDI
MIDN BETSCHART
MIDN MILLER
MIDN HANNON
MIDN HANNON
MIDN HANNON

Military Order of World War Award of Merit
Pat Casey Remo Award
MROTC Staff Award
Reserve Officers Assn.
McAlexander Chap.
Corvallis Retired Off. Club Medal
Darrell Tipples Remo Award
American Defense Preps. Assn. Award
Armed Forces Comm. & Electronics Assn. Honor Award
Reserve Officers Assn. Achievement Award
Amer. Legion Academic Excellence Award
Senior Awards:

R.J. Arnold
R. T. Aww
A.F. Brock
S.P. Bryant
R.A. Crawford
J.P. Day
C.J. Dolson
S.B. Dorman
R.G. Gartz
C.A. Gunzel III
K.T. Holm
M.A. Phillips
T.S. Stout

MROTC Staff Award
McAlexander Reserve Off. Assn. Award
MIDN 3/C T.M. PHAM

NEW BILLETs FOR FALL TERM!

Many unit traditions take place at the spring Ring Dance, but by far the most suspenseful is the presentation of the battalion billet holders for fall term. The following were among some of the key billets announced for 1966.

Congratulations on your appointments and good luck in the fall. Have fun at Rookie-O.

MIDN 3/C T.M. FITZGERALD

The COLONEL congratulates MIDN LEGRONE on an academically outstanding term.

B.A. SHEVCHEK
MO'S HIT THE WOODS

NS 423 -- sounds harmless but wait isn't that; yes, it is -- Bulldog Prep!!

Spring term sees a frantic increase in unit activities. One of the most time consuming and important for the Marine Options is Bulldog Prep. This three credit hour class, instructed by Maj Hensley, GYSGT COAN and several senior MO's, readiness officer candidates for the festivities that OCS has in store for their summer. One of the highlights of a term full of marching, running, Physical Readiness Tests (PRT), and inspections is the testing of practical skills during one weekend in the woods.

While most of the battalion was huffing and puffing through the Spring PFT, those lazy potential Marines were on their annual Marine Option Field Exercises (MOFEX). The MOFEX happens every year, and is the climax of the Bulldog program.

The activities started at midnight Friday. "Fun and games" at the unit preceded the 9 1/2 mile march in the dead of night to the base camp in the middle of Mac-Donald Forest. Candidates "condo" were quickly set up on the hillside overlooking the base camp fire. Breakfast consisted of Meals Ready to Eat (MREs) stowed in cargo pockets (I'm told the pocket lint only improved the taste) and eaten on the way up or down the "cliffs" that had to be climbed in order to do squad assault and reaction problems.

Dinner was a leisurely meal of hamburgers that had to be protected from a band of ferocious "aggressors". The after dinner entertainment was worth the trip alone. The candidates gave impromptu speeches on everything from a "Girl Scout's trip to Europe" to "What I did in the Marine Corp" and "The Differences in Leadership between the Navy and Marine Corp". Three choruses of a rousing rendition of the Marine Corps Hymn finished off the evening and the exhausted candidates were sent off to bed for three hours of sleep.

The next morning consisted of more tasty MREs and a timed death march back out to civilization. An additional two hours was spent on cleaning equipment at the unit before the best part of the weekend's testing could be done -- going home to a real meal, a hot shower and a dry, level bed.

As one candidate said, "it was a valuable learning experience, but a good time was had only by the instructors."  

MIDN 3/c T.M. FITZGERALD

CLASS OF '86

I've served my time. I'm ready for the PAID adventure to start. After four years here allow me to reexamine for just a bit. When I started Rockie-0 back in the fall of 1982 there were 72 freshmen in the ranks with me. By the end of the year our class had dwindled to 52 Midshipmen. Out of those, 26 are to be commissioned this year.

What have we hard-chargers gained by staying? For me, I have gained an education, opportunity, the thought of succeeding at an overwhelming challenge, an adventure (job), prestige, the fostering of my inherent abilities, and life-time friendships. For each senior the balance sheet will be different. I assure you there will be many more credits than debits (yet, I am a business major).

Seniors, it's about time. But before we get caught up in the excitement of commissioning, remember this place and the hours

SEE "SENIORS" Pg. 11
MOFT

"Past! Hey, kid, you want to go to the East Coast for part of Spring Break?"

"Sure," I joined the Navy to travel at government expense, didn't I?

They didn't tell me it would be the Marine Option Field Trip to Camp LeJune, North Carolina. Oh well, it would be a chance to see life from the other side of the tracks.

The first of our four fun filled days was spent traveling to Cherry Point (MCAB). Upon every take of our exceptionally friendly C-9 pilot assured us that we were more than welcome to come to the cockpit for a visit. I'll admit it -- I was worried when the nose dipped with the extra weight of aviation oriented middies rushing forward. The rest of the flight proved to be a symphony of snores as we caught up on our winter term allotment of sleep.

The first presentation at Camp LeJune was of the CS gas chamber. I am happy to report that no one charged for the door only to be repelled by the huge forms of the sergeants. Once outside and done with bouncing off trees we all compared the incredible length of snot that the CS (clear minus) gas created.

Our next demonstration was to take place on a sunny sand lot deep in the heart of the camp. The Cobra, Sea Stallion and Super Stallion helicopters were patiently waiting for the attacking middies to finish looking so that they could be transported over the top of Camp LeJune to the next site via CH-46.
CEREMONY OF THE RING

The annual Ring Dance, celebrating the graduation and commissioning of the seniors, took place again this year at the famous Elk's Lodge. As it was in the past, and probably will always be in the future, the evening began with the receiving line and cocktails.

The highlight of the night was the Ring Ceremony. Each of the seniors, escorting his date, passed through the sword arch made up of Drill Team members. In keeping with tradition, the senior's ring is dipped in the Binnacle containing the Waters of the Seven Seas. And in creating our own tradition, who can forget dipping the date for the celebration kiss. The ceremony was enlivened by the reading of the wiles written by the graduating midshipmen and interpreted by the ex-seniors MIDN G.R. HILBERG and OC W.R. HICKS. This year's most memorable was the "Racimiferous Colonel" Award, vailed to our own COL STEIN, complete with a gold and scarlet T-shirt.

There was a late arrival to the ceremony as King Tutt and his Mrs. made a short appearance. Mrs. Tutt stole the show as she kissed MIDN 4/C L.F. SWINNEY of the Drill Team to the cheers and whistles of the amused observers.

After the ceremony, all danced and generally enjoyed themselves as the band played through the night. Thanks are due to the coordinators, the participants, and to MIDN 2/C S.R. TRAUTWEIN and W.D. CHATHAM for their royal performances.

While the juniors were practicing their navigational skills, the freshmen were hard at work learning the operation, care, and feeding of the P-250 gas-powered pump. They also gained experience in donning and using the Oxygen Breathing Apparatus (OBA). After lunch they learned more about fire and damage control parties. They found out that these parties are very different than the ones at OSU. The wet simulator was the highlight of the day. It was their chance to control flooding in a compartment, prevent the ship from sinking, and get wet, all at the same time.

After lunch the juniors rotated the watch and were ready to continue steaming. Just for practice, another man overboard drill was held. Then the situation became very intense. Four hostile aircraft began firing after being spotted. Through the smooth flow of information and fast reaction of the CIC team, the hostiles were soon destroyed. The next attack by missile patrol boats was programmed into the SBS and once again the juniors emerged the victors. A sneak attack by an enemy submarine caught them by surprise. A simulated hit aft caused damage, but they remained afloat. Once again the clocks stopped and the lights came on. At last, the simulation was over, and a debriefing session was held.

The trip back to Corvallis was uneventful when compared to the events of the day. They had survived fires, flooding, missile attacks, and gunfire. Now it was time to return and somehow survive finals so that this valuable experience could be taken along with them on their summer cruises.

"Racimiferous Colonel" for the outstanding four year performance as Professor of Naval Science. S.M. PIESHER

As these freshmen found out, saving ships is hard work. WMCS ALFORD

OC and MRS AWAI pass beneath the traditional sword arch to the binnacle. B.A. SHEYCHUK

TRAINING FOR THE FUTURE

On 17 MAY 86 the freshmen and junior classes went to the Naval Reserve Center in Portland to learn about shipboard evolutions. The freshmen practiced various damage control procedures while the juniors were introduced to the shipboard simulator (SBS).

The juniors were instructed on the responsibilities of the various watch stations and how to operate the equipment associated with each. After allowing time to get the feel of the task, a man overboard drill was entered into the SBS. The bridge and CIC crews coordinated their actions to retrieve the man. Then it happened, the lights came on, all of the clocks stopped. LUNCH BREAK! The simulator was put on hold. Wish it was that simple at sea.

OC J.E. HARRISON

MIDN 4/C G.G. HUSSEK
FUTURE FLYERS GO EAST

The Aviation Indoctrination Field Trip (AIFT) departed early Monday morning from Eugene with LT McGowan and Gunnery Sergeant Coan and twenty enthusiastic midshipmen. Enroute to Pensacola, Florida, we stopped at Miramar Naval Air Station. A glimpse of 'Fighter Town' was an unexpected bonus as some lucky midshipmen were given a tour of the 'Top Gun' facility. After arriving in Florida, Monday ended with a welcome and check in at the BOC.

Tuesday kicked off with a Pilot/NFO presentation and a flight physiology class. Everyone was motivated enough to tackle the infamous Q-course. What had initially seemed an easy course turned into an exhausting workout. Our instructors were impressed with our performance, which they credited to running from bears in the back woods of Oregon.

The next day's main event was a sea survival class at the training pool. Attempting to pass this swimming class in full flight gear is obviously one of the more difficult evolutions of Al. Anxious to get out of the pool, we were then taken to a land survival presentation. Our instructors invited us to sample some of their food but in this case courage faltered. To end the day, several midshipmen visited the famous Naval Aviation Museum.

The next day was the most exciting for it included rides in the TH-57. After a safety briefing, our group boarded one by one over Whiting Field. The pilots were helpful and even allowed us stick time. The flights ended with several pilots dazed with fear due to midshipmen attempting to fly their aircraft. After that, we drove out to the Blue Angel HQ where we saw several films on their aerobatic maneuvers. Our trip ended with an excursion into Seville Quarter and the famed aviator's bar 'Trader Johnes'. On Friday, we boarded our C-9 and returned to the unit. Hopefully, many of us will return to Pensacola to be pinned by Wings of Gold.

WELCOME NROTC MOTHERS

An enthusiastic crowd of moms and a few dads poured into Gill Coliseum on 3 MAY 86 to proudly watch their sons and daughters display their precision marching skills.

A performance by the Color Guard was noted by a fellow midshipman as "a really cool show!" D & B performed an outstanding, as usual, exhibition phase, and LT SHAFER called the Drill Team's routine, "...the best I'd ever seen." (Drill Team members can make checks payable to LT SHAFER...)

After the impressive display of talent, the masses headed to the unit for some coffee, doughnuts, and informative conversation with the staff. Among those helping to entertain the masses were LT DARNELL, who told "Whoppp- Stories." Sorry Lieutenant, no high school girls this weekend. And LT SHAFER, who showed some wise cracking middies that Nuc-Sub Officers can drive surface ships too... by remote control.

Meanwhile, some moms were treated to videos of the San Antonio trip ('Look Mom! That's me over there!'), while others received a grand tour of our spacious unit. But other fun-filled activities were planned for the moms elsewhere around town, like seeing how much money we could get them to spend on us (just kidding, Mom!), so the unit's activities were short lived. With Moms' and Dad's Weekend past, we can return our lives and our straightened rooms to normal.
NOTES FROM THE LOFT

"Isn't working with the Marines a bitch?" This is a pretty typical comment from friends who know that I am a Navy Midshipman. I suspect that the MUs get similar comments about the squids. I guess I know why people have such ideas about Navy/Marine incompatibility. Shoot, I was a big fan of "Black Sheep Squadron." Maybe I see the world through rose colored glasses, but I'm afraid that I don't see any major conflicts between the two. Oh, God knows we have our differences, but I can't say that they're all that serious. Our "fights" are more like sibling quarrels.

You know, when you think about it, the USN and USMC are a great team. The winning combination. Between the two of us there isn't a spot on the globe where we can't project our influence. Heck, we do more to insure world peace than the other two services combined. The Army and the Air Force are limited by their access to friendly bases and airfields, which make them a great deal less versatile than the Navy and Marine Corp. What makes our team come out on top is the fact that the entire ocean is our base. We have two-thirds of the world at our disposal.

America's strength would suffer greatly if the long-haired liberal/pinko/commies made the leathernecks break ties with the squids. Either organization is a formidable opponent, but together we can't be beat.

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