



1775 United States Marine Corps 1937

The Navy Goat

NOW that the football season has well begun, the Navy goat, venerable and traditional mascot of midshipman football teams, will be seen in action, parading the side lines robed in blanket of blue and gold. The annual West Point - Naval Academy classic could scarcely be played in the absence of the goat. To be sure, his presence cannot insure a Navy victory but, on the other hand, how could a win be even hoped for if he weren't there to bring good luck? The first Navy goat to appear at a West Point - Navy game came from a farm adjoining the playing field at West Point in 1890. He got there on account of a hunch of Lt. (jg) Charles H. Harlow and Ensign F. B. Sullivan. Both of these officers, seeing so few Navy rooters en route to the game, decided that something had to be done. In this frame of mind they saw a plain old goat in a nearby field. They paid the owner a small price, and on they went to the game. The Navy won to the tune of 24 to 0. Some have said that the price of the goat was one dollar. Anyway, the game having been won, some of the credit was given to the goat mascot. Ever since then Navy goat has always tried to bring good luck to Navy football teams in the annual classic.



A Houston philosopher says that the most jealous husband in the world is the fellow who made his wife drink black coffee at bedtime, so she wouldn't meet the man of her dreams.

One Hundred And Sixty-two Years Of Faithful Service

THERE have been marines on vessels of every navy in the world since the first galleys of war were built by Solomon. The early Phoenicians and Egyptians carried in addition to their crew of navigators and galley slaves a small body of soldiery used solely for fighting. These sea-going soldiers were a picked lot, outstanding in their loyalty, courage and fierceness in battle when engaged in sea hostilities. But after the fall of Rome, the barbarians produced a novelty in naval warfare in the shape of dragon ships, manned by crews of blue-eyed Vikings who were, in the truest sense, soldiers and sailors too. It was from these soldier-sailors that the idea of marines was conceived, and down through the ages marines have retained their characteristics as fighting men—musketeers, sharpshooters and well disciplined forces furnishing spear heads for boarding and landing forces.

As the first great modern maritime power, Great Britain organized the first modern Marine Corps in 1664, and in 1740, two regiments of marines were recruited from the American colonies for service with the British Navy.

On November 10, 1775, the Continental Congress authorized organization of two battalions of marines which were the first United States Marines. From these our Marine Corps of today is descended.

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The Navy "Gunboat"

WHEN, in 1861, an engineer by the name of Captain Eads contracted to construct seven river gunboats in sixty-five days for the Government, he could hardly have imagined that seventy-six years later naval constructors would be taking almost two years to build such a "simple" thing as a gunboat. What's more, he would have scoffed at the idea that a gunboat could ever be looked upon as a "small, but formidable cruiser."

In spite of Captain Ead's possible disbelief, the United States Navy has today in the U.S.S. ERIE and her sister ship, the U.S.S. CHARLESTON, gunboats which are not only "small but formidable cruisers," but are eminently capable of performing convoy, patrol, scouting, or independent duty. These ships are of an entirely new gunboat class, specially designed for the Special Service Squadron.

After the beginning of the war between the States, it was soon discovered by the North that for a decisive campaign, control of the Southern waterways would be necessary. The alarming number of river boats being converted into warships by the Confederates spurred the Union to construct its own river fleet and accordingly men like Captain Eads were given special rush orders.

Modern gunboat service extends from the rivers of China with their professional and amateur pirates to the waters of our southern neighbors

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The Navy Gunboat

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with their professional and amateur revolutionists. Although the present administration disfavors interference in South American and Caribbean disturbances and maintains a "good neighbor" policy, the Navy has in other times, especially immediately before the World War, played a policeman's part.

Revolution squelching was once a favorite Navy pastime. For many years, revolutions have been the national sport of small countries of temperamental disposition and have been exciting substitutes for such games as football and baseball. Naturally, when our gunboats would offer to stop the fun, their services were not always appreciated. Our gunboat men, after a time, became used to being disliked by both sides in a friendly revolution but certain other practices continued to irk them. Foremost among these was the practice of the troubled government buying off revolutionary leaders when they became too strong to crush. The United States forces didn't mind sending landing parties ashore to chase some outlaw, but when this outlaw would steam past several days later as the new minister of war or some such thing, why that was going a little too far.

According to the account of an officer who served when the revolution business was booming, the gunboat life was never a dull one. A gunboat might stop to take gold to a safe place from a bank about to be raided by the government. An ex-president might occasionally be found who had just escaped from somewhere and would like to go somewhere else. A custom collector had just unearthed an elaborate system of coffee smuggling and needs moral support. Revolutionists surrender and give up their arms provided they get something for them. They keep the good ones and the gunboats collect the bad ones and the war is finished. Or perhaps the horse marines farther down are short of hay or oats, so the good ship loads up like a farm wagon and goes down the line.

Gunboat activities in the Far East are confined chiefly to the Yangtze River and are far from being a thing of the past. At present they can be considered in a specially active duty

Houston Officer Weds

Lt. (jg) E. A. McDonald, "A" Division Officer, was united in marriage on Thursday 11 November, at Yuma, Arizona, to Miss Marie Rita Metzen of Buffalo, New York. After the ceremony a brief motor trip was made through northern Mexico and southern California.

Educational Classes At Long Beach Navy Y.M.C.A.

Classes in mathematics, blue print reading, radio theory and code are given at the Long Beach "Y" each weekend. These classes are held at 7:00 p.m. on Fridays, and 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays so that only navy men interested in any one of these subjects can attend each week without interruption.

These classes are given by the Adult Educational Department of the Long Beach Public School System and are free to all who wish to attend. It is never too late to sign up. Credit is given towards high school graduation to all those who wish it.

This is an age of life-long learning. Education is power. All that is required of one is the effort and ambition to get it.

While witnessing a game of baseball, a boy was struck on the head, the bawl coming out of the mouth.

Gob: "Ginger ale."

Waiter: "Pale?"

Gob: "No, just a glass."

status while standing by in the Shanghai area.

The taking of the ERIE and the CHARLESTON into the naval service gives the United States an unrivaled gunboat force. Although our gunboats in their present connections are essentially peacetime warships, nothing prevents the use of the latest two and also the slightly smaller TULSA and ASHVILLE as important peacetime units. Our Yangtze patrol boats, with the LUZAN as flagship, being river boats, are more rigidly limited in use. Certainly, the gunboat is again becoming an important cog in the naval service and without doubt the gunboat service affords sure action to all applicants.

—Log.



Some people can tell time accurately with neither a watch nor the sun. Scientists in Princeton University got to thinking about this, studied human brain waves, and recently reported that we all have electric clocks in our heads, but most of them make poor timepieces because they run too fast. These brain clocks tick from 10 to 40 times a second. At each tick an electrical wave spreads out from the cerebral spheres. This goes on whether you're awake or asleep. Some day, perhaps, we may all be walking alarm clocks.

Scientists in Pittsburgh, Pa., will soon try again to unlock the tremendous energy in the atom. A gigantic atom-smashing gun, containing a forty foot vacuum tube, is nearing completion there. Through this tube physicists will hurl tiny sub-atomic particles at speeds up to one hundred million miles an hour. Propelled by five million volts of electrical energy, these high-speed "bullets" will bombard various metals, gases, and liquids. The experimenters figure something ought to give way.

Gus's Weekly Letter

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But something happened to the arithmetic somewhere because it wasn't long until there was nothin' left but a lone fat battle scarred cat. It should have taught him a lesson, but he turned his attentions right away to makin' pancakes outa popcorn flour so they would turn over of their own accord. I guess some folk never learn.

Us hearties o' tha sea don't worry ourselves about such things as Uncle Sammy has allus got enough work for us to do and such notions can't find enough room to creep into our already crowded noggins.

Love,

Gus.