

8 FEBRUARY 1963



Published monthly (except July and August) in the interest of philately and to promote collecting of U.S. Navy ship postmarks and cachets and special event covers honoring the Navy. This is NOT an official U.S. Navy publication. Future issues are obtained by annual membership subscription of \$2.00 Compiled and distributed by W.R. Skelley, Jr., Chief Yeoman, U.S. Navy 1210 Earle Avenue, Chesapeake 6, Va. Translated and reproduced in Germany as "SCHIFFSPOST NEWS".

U.S.C.S. needs you.....

join U.S.C.S. and travel with ships.

Your recently organized USCS Hampton Roads Chapter #63 is assuming the task of servicing envelopes for naval cover collectors for events taking shape in this area. Delivery of envelopes to the ships concerned may be accomplished smoothly especially when events are rescheduled or new ships are assigned to the Recover Force. Your covers will be mailed to Recoverers ships not located in this area. Norfolk is the homeport for many of the Recovery ships and should ship changes occur our liaison with the Navy will insure better results. Should the event be delayed your covers will be held for the word from the Public Information Officer.

Start the count down. . . . for Major Leroy G. Cooper's Project Mercury 18-orbit mission to outer space scheduled in April, 1963.

Collectors desiring naval covers cancelled aboard approximately 20 U.S. Navy ships assigned to the Atlantic Fleet to commemorate the U.S. Main-in-Space event and recovery may participate by observing the following procedures:

1. Two cover limit per ship not to exceed 50 covers per collector.
2. Special requests for autographs, photographs or cachets cannot be serviced.
3. Covers received without at least 5 cents U.S. postage will not be serviced. Postage of the United Nations is not valid except at the UN post office.
4. Some ships have cachets and we will encourage them to use them.
5. Covers received after 20 March will be serviced as circumstances permit or held over for the next event.
6. No responsibility is assumed by the Navy or personnel connected with this program, in the event covers are lost, delayed or not returned.

A few significant points are: (1) Results cannot be guaranteed due to ever present possibility of the event being delayed, rescheduled or re-assignment of Recovery Force ships (2) We, who are in the Navy realize that time and money is spent by collectors in trying to obtain complete Recovery Force coverage. The Navy is proud of her role in the Mercury Program but it is impractical to guarantee full coverage or even complete postmarks. (3) The newly chartered Universal Ship Cancellation Society - Hampton Roads Chapter will try to obtain collector service on future events scheduled in this area (4) Navy personnel are just not available to process nearly 4,000 requests. Therefore, it behooves the Hampton Roads Chapter, a part of the national organization, to take the initiative and share the burden imposed on the Navy.

HERE IS WHERE TO SEND YOUR COVERS: ATLANTIC FLEET: W.R.SKELLEY, JR., YNC, USN  
PRESIDENT HAMPTON ROADS CHAPTER #63  
1210 Earle Avenue, Chesapeake 6, Va

Approximately 11 Pacific Fleet ships will comprise the Pacific Recover Force and a two cover limit per ship applies. PACIFIC FLEET: COMMANDER TASK FORCE 131  
BOX 110, Navy No. 128,  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA



HERE AND THERE

Joseph Martinez, 1140 St. Johns Place, B rooklyn 13, NY desires to obtain covers from USS BARBERO launching, keel laying, commissioning or any other cover from this sub with cachet. Will reimburse postage expenses if you can help. Please state price or covers desired in exchange...

S. SADOWSKY reports he received a cover from USS CONSTITUTION IX-21 with CO's autograph. There is no cachet or cancellation except for Dept. of the Navy seal postmarked at the Boston Navy Yard.

Mrs. Robert L. Lovell, 4620 East 21 Place, Tulsa 14, Okla wants to prepare a naval cover write up and display for her 4th, 5th and 6th grades (546 of 'em). Will you help? Write ups, pictures and duplicate covers appreciated. The youth of today are the collectors of tomorrow - Here is a chance to serve.....

"Mediterranean Rendezvous" ..

When the Long Beach joins the Big "E" and the Bainbridge in the Med this spring, it will be the first time that three surface nuclear ships get together underway. Perhaps, Chief Glenn will help? Reading reports from collectors the LB won't be much assistance.

Cover received: Mr. Werner Meister, 43 Essen Kray, Marienstrasse 64, Germany sends covers with cachet commemorating DAHLGREN (DLG-12) 1962 visit to Kiev; ZERSTORER-5 (Ger.) and HMS LEOPARD/FL4 (Eng.) visit to Cuxhaven. German postage was used on all covers and Dahlgren's postmark cancelled the German postage. Envelopes were of the European quality and size. Very nice - thank you.

Did you know? After the U.S. second successful manned orbited spaceflight on May 24, 1962, the destroyer USS JOHN R. PIERCE recovered LCDR Scott Carpenter's spacecraft "AURORA 7".

HUMOR IN UNIFORM - The merger of Norfolk County and the City of South Norfolk on 1 Jan 1963 formed the new City of Chesapeake. Yesterday's mail call was both hilarious and refreshing as my local Selective Service Board sent me of all things - a draft registration questionnaire. Can you imagine the clerks reaction when she reads my reply which reads in part " In the interest of economy and the reduction of paperwork the attached questionnaire should be furnished with six carbon copies in accordance with standard Navy operating procedure and approval by my Commanding Officer. Signed: Yours truly

"SHOOTING THE BREEZE"

The first U.S. stamp issued in 1847 was a five cent stamp. A letter weighing a 1/2 ounce was able to go 300 miles. A five center today will take a letter from one end of the United States to the other and accomodate 2 ounces of "Printed Matter" to certain other countries in the world. Briefly, let me say that postal rates in the U.S. are normally less than anywhere else. This is one of the many reasons for the tremendous gains naval cover collecting has been evident in the past two years.

SCUTTLEBUTT (Gossip)

At present there are no polaris subs operating in the Pacific. Plans to station the Proteus or the HOLLAND (AS-32) under construction would seem probable especially for the HOLLAND. USS THOMAS JEFFERSON may after her shakedown cruise be designated as the first U.S. polaris sub to operate in Pacific waters. Shakedown training may include shooting Polaris missiles off Cape Canaveral. Shakedown will commence as soon as the Jefferson is checked out and accepted by the Navy.

Captain Cooper now Major Cooper

Major Leroy Gordon Cooper, Jr., pilot of the next U.S. Project Mercury shot scheduled in April will be the last of the one man Mercury flights. GEMINI flights begin late this year with two-man flights followed by three-man moon shots of Project APOLLO in 1967.

U.S.C.S. needs you .. . . .

JOIN U.S.C.S. and travel with the U.S. Navy.....



"ANTARCTIA - some-times called the "Cruel Continent."

The first recognition of Antarctica as a true continent was established on the First U.S. sponsored expedition lead by Charles Wilkes, U.S. Navy (1838-42).

Antarctic Regions exceed 5,000,000 square miles, circular in shape and centers approximately about the earths geographic South Pole. It is the largest and the most complete desert in the world, a very cold one at that.

A complete chronology of some of the discoveries of this luring unknown land may be found in an encyclopedia at your public library.

Roald Amundsen, discover of the South Pole (Dec. 16,1911) made his find a few weeks before Capt. R.F. Scott(Eng.) and companians whose tragic end was certified by a searching party later the same year. RADM R.E. Byrd's(US) First Antarctic Expedition (1928) established "Little America" and his personal camp 100 miles inland. A third expedition in 1939 was made possible by a \$340,00 U.S. Government appropriation.

The U. S. Government as late as 1955, had not laid official claim to any Antarctic Territory. Byrd and other citizens had made numerous claims in behalf of the United States. The United States conception of the pie shaped wedges converging at the South Pole by other nations, namely France, Great B ritain, Argentina, Chile, Norway, Austrailia and New Zealand, is that claims should be based on actual occupation of territory rather than including a vast territory never seen by man was illogical.

\*RADM George J. Dufek's 1956 R4D Skytrain landing at the South Pole with six other Navy men marked the beginning of annual U.S. Antarctic explorations.

Today hundreds of men,from 12 nations live the year around in Antarctica, many of them completely isolated in total darkness for months. McMurdo Station, the American science research headquarters is about 900 miles from the South Pole. During the long March to August winter screaming winds tear at 200 MPH and temperatures drop to minus 100°F and it becomes too cold for man, beast or machine.

Yet, for over a century of Antarctic Explorations, man is intriguingly beckoned to a land still locked in the Ice Age. This place of sheer,almost overpowering beauty, yields the world's greatest unspoiled scientific laboratory, extensive specimens and other vital technological data securely preserved in nature's freezer.

On behalf of industry, leading colleges and universities are conducting many migatory studies of fish and birds in this awesome land of beauty. Increased studies by the United States and Russia in oceanography and ocean currents continue to gather momentum annually, in an effort to explore this land of ice and snow.

Adventurers and scientists alike are attracted to this "Cruel Continent" and it's ever present beauty as a magnet is to steel.

Like the adventurers, collectors who desire the unusual in covers must pay the price. Planning ahead and doing painstaking research through reading and correspondence may bring results -unguaranteed results . . .

\*(Now retired and Director, Mariner's Museum, Newport News, Virginia)

*Dufek*  
\*(Now retired, is RADM Dufek is ~~Curator~~, Mariner's Museum



MARITIME                      MAIL  
By A. W. Mears -USCS 189

"PAQUEBOT", "POSTED ON THE HIGH SEAS", "SHIP LETTER" - these are only a few of the varied and interesting markings that may be obtained from merchantships. Covers with these markings may be divided into two types (1) official government cancels either shore station or ship post office and (2) ship or company markings.

The collector of these markings and cancels needs to be willing to do some research and to possess some measure of patience. The research depends mainly upon the section in which the collector lives. Having lived in or near seaports all my life, the shipping news in the daily paper is one of my main interests. To the "inland" collector I can only advise that most magazines carry advertisements of the various shipping companies. Cultivating your local travel agent will also pay dividends. Patience is necessary as covers quite often are a long time coming home.

When sending for covers I can only stress that the handling of covers is a courtesy on the part of hard-working ship personnel who quite often have never heard of our hobby. Make your request brief, but complete and don't request special favors. Quite often you will receive a brief note or a postcard of the ship from the chap handling your cover. If you know the ship's route send direct to the ship at various ports, allowing necessary travel time, otherwise send via the Head Office.

Some recent additions to my collection are listed to give some idea if the variety available.

The Cunard Line uses at least four types of markings (1) R.M.S. QUEEN MARY uses a boxed three line cachet: HighSeas Mail/Posted on Board/RMS QUEEN MARY. My cover bears the Southampton(Eng.) Paquebot cancel. (2) R.M.S. ELIZABETH uses a two line cachet: Posted on Board/R.M.S. QUEEN ELIZABETH. This cover has the Cherbourg (Fr.) Paquebot cancel. (3) The CARMANIA also uses a two line cachet: HIGH SEAS MAIL/RMS CARMANIA. Covers bears Cobb(Eire) Paquebot. (4) SYLVANIA stamps "High Seas Mail" on covers along with ship's name stamp. The covers also has Halifax(N.S.) date stamp.

The ships of the Nord Deutscher Lloyd have official ship post offices. The T.S. Bremen has an outstanding and interesting circular cancel this I have only noticed on envelopes containing German Stamps.

The Canadian Pacific ships use a four line cachet: Posted on board the British/ship" \_\_\_\_\_"/ on the High Seas/ Date \_\_\_\_\_. Covers from these ships also have various Canadian and British shore cancels. Unusual items sometimes result from covering the various cruises.

The BATORY of the Polish Ocean Lines and the NIEUW AMSTERDAM of the Holland-America Line also have official ship post offices, the Nieuw Amsterdam uses her cancel as a cachet unless Dutch Stamps are used.

Two American ships that have distinctive cachets are the UNITED STATES and the AMERICA of the U.S. Line. My latest cover from the America was returned via Bremerhaven (Ger.) with an additional two line cachet Auf See eingeliefert/Naivre Paquebot.

These are only a few of the possibilities. Good Luck and good covers !!!

P.S. Thank you Art.



KATALOG KORNER- Collector participation by sending questionnaires to Navy Postal Clerks makes this section possible and evidently the results reported have been fruitful.

USS SHIP	POST OFFICE	CACHET	FPO	REMARKS
SCULPIN SS-590	No	Yes	SF	Note#1 J.JONES, YNC, USN
EVERSOLE DD-789	Yes	No	NY	Note #1 and 4
WEISS APD-135	Yes	No	SF	Note #1
MORTON DD-948	Yes	Yes	SF	Note #1
BLUE DD-744	Yes	No	SF	Note #1 R.E. JOHNSON, PC2 (naval cover collector)
SARATOGA CVA-60	Yes	Yes	NY	Note #1 and 3
CHIPOLA AO-63	Yes	Yes	SF	Note#1 PC collects stamps
ORLECK DD-886	Unknown	Unknown		No questionnaire received
MCGINTY DE-365	No	No	USNTC, SWAN ISLAND, PORTLAND, OREGON	-Will use ship's return address stamp very nice.
KAWISHIWI AO-148	Yes	?	SF	PC not willing to help.
CALCATERRA DER-390	Yes	No	SF	Note#1 PC is collector
ARNEB AKA-56	Yes	Yes	NY	Note#1 PC is collector
CIMARRON AO-22	Yes	No	SF	Note: ENSIGN D.A. JACKSON, USN Postal Officer-collects stamps
TRATHEN DD-530	Yes	Yes	SF	Note#1
WEDDERBURN DD-684	Yes	No	SF	PC not willing but will comply
LOCATOR AGR-6	Yes	Yes	SF	Note#1 PC is Stamp collector
SEMINOLE AKA-104	Yes	Yes	NY	Note#1 Ship has 4 different rubber stamp markings
CACAPON AO-52	Yes	Unknown	SF	No questionnaire received
BRISTER DER -727	Yes	Unknown	SF	No questionnaire received.
KANKAKEE AO-39	Yes	Not yet	NY	Note 1 and 2 PC -stamps
TORO SS-422	No	No	NY	Decommissioning
PAUL REVERE APA-248	Yes	Unknown	SF	PC not willing to help
NEWMAN K. PERRY DDR-883	Yes	No	NY	Note 1
SPEIGHL GROVE LSD 32	Yes	No	NY	Note 1

COVER FILLERS: Nearly one pound (over 175) IBM card fillers are available to subscribers without charge (size- 3-3/8 x 7-3/4). Send 50 cents in mint stamps or coin to: Billy Skelley, 1210 Earle Avenue, Chesapeake 6, Virginia, to cover the cost of mailing and handling.

MORE NEWS ON RESEARCH SHIPS.... USNS Charles H. DAVIS ready for shakedown and expects her first assignment in the Pacific in April. SANDS (AGOR-6) MIND LYNCH (AGOR-7) named and assigned to Marietta Mfg Co, Point Pleasant, West Virginia for construction.

- Note #1 - Postal Clerk(PC) willing to assist collectors providing a limited number of request are received.
- Note #2 - Collectors of stamps or covers are on board as indicated by the PC.
- Note #3 - Large Cachet - leave entire left half of envelope blank.
- Note #4 - Post office disestablished at present should re-open in March 1963



## EDITOR'S VIEWPOINT

San Marino is the world's oldest republic and independent country in Europe. Fleeing from a martyr's death in a Rome Coliseum, St. Marinus founded this tiny republic in the 4th century.

San Marino is an appealing country to tourists but more especially to stamp collectors. Thirty percent of San Marino's income is derived from stamps. They deliberately create "stamp errors" and engage in many tricks of the trade to render high catalogue values worthless.

My intention here is not to evaluate San Marino's stamp business but to impress you with the significance of a word. Yes, a word whose very utterance is the nectar of our freedom, in fact the very soul.

I cannot remember ever reading any material concerning San Marino that didn't mention the word - republic.

Communists abhor the word otherwise they wouldn't embrace socialism. Much of our own literature today seldom refers to this Nation that I love best as a "republic" There is no substitute in United States History and the American way of life for the word - republic. It means: "A state in which the supreme power rests in the body of citizens entitled to vote and is exercised by representatives directly or indirectly chosen by them."

Why, then do stamp collectors buy more stamps from this tiny republic than from the other five leading postage stamp sized countries in Europe?

The answer is a simple one. Some stamps produced by San Marino commemorate great men such as Washington, Franklin and Italy's own Garibaldi. The recognition of these republic fathers makes the topical collector eager to acquire "Rep. Di San Marino" commemoratives. Everyone who loves peace and freedom wants to share in recognizing the champions of liberty. Moreover, we as Americans select stamps that depict our heritage. Topical collectors are not therefore necessarily concerned with values but with beauty instead.

The pen is mightier than the sword but it does not give our writers the right to energize a sinuous meaning by using other adjectives that do not measure up. The magic of letters arouse the emotions of mankind - joy or sorrow, love or hate - and can give enduring quality of depth and meaning. Our liberties are safe until the memories and experiences of the past are blotted out. . . . .

### HELPFUL HINTS TO COLLECTORS:

Europeans desiring to purchase naval covers from T.G. Nicholson, Norfolk, Va are advised that he will accept U.S. mint stamps or IRC in payment.

Do you want to save money? Who doesn't you say? Well here is an opportunity for our readers to do just that. Before actually subscribing to a publication dealing with covers and stamps - stop and think ! Will this publication really serve your cover needs? A paper that mainly consists of classified advertisements may be fascinating but how about some down to earth reading. Drop me a line before you leap - it might save you some money.

↑  
*connection*



NAVPHILATELY

SCOREBOARD

BETHELEHEM STEEL SHIPYARD, QUINCY, MASS

SSN-638 WHALE KL-7 or 8/63  
 SSN-637  
 SSN-649

BATH IRON WORKS, BATH, MAINE

DLG#17 YARNELL C-2/63 BOSTON  
 DLG-18 WORDEN C-8/63  
 DLG-26 BELKNAP L-18 May 63  
 DLG-27 J. DANIELS L-26 Oct 63

NATIONAL STEEL CO, SAN FRANCISCO

AFS-1 MARS L-2 Mar 63  
 ARS-2 SYLVANIA L-29 Jun 63

NEWPORT NEWS SHBLDG, NEWPORT NEWS, VA

CVA-66 AMERICA L-2 Aug 63  
 SSBN-635 S. RAYBURN C-  
 SSBN-632 VON STEUBEN L-16 Aug 63  
 SSBN-630 J.C.CALHOUN L-17 May 63  
 SSBN-627 J. MADISON L-16 Mar 63  
 SSBN-625 H. CLAY C-  
 SSBN-641 KL-25 Feb 63  
 SSBN-622 J. MONROE C-23 Aug 63  
 SSBN-645  
 AG-165  
 AG-166

PHILADELPHIA NSY, PHILADELPHIA, PA

LPH-9 GUAM C-  
 LPH-7 GUADACANAL L-16 Mar 63

TODD SHIPYARD, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

DDG-23 R.E. BYRD  
 DDG-24 WADDELL L-26 Feb 63

TODD SHIPYARD, SAN PEDRO, CALIF

DLG-22 ENGLAND C- Sep 63  
 DLG-33

SAN FRANCISCO NSY, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF

DLG-30 HORNE  
 CG-11 CHICAGO

NEW YORK NSY, BROOKLYN, N.Y.

LPD-2 VANCOUVER C-19 Mar 63  
 LPD-3 LASALLE L-19 May 63  
 LPD-4 through 8  
 AGMR

BETHELHEM STEEL, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF

DE-1040 GARCIA C-  
 DE-1041

ELECTRIC BOAT CO, GROTON, CONN

SSBN-616 LAFAYETTE C-23 Apr 63  
 SSBN-617 A. HAMILTON C-23 Jun 63  
 SSBN-623 N. HALE C-  
 SSBN-631 U. GRANT L-15 Spe 63  
 SSBN-633 C. PULASKI C-  
 SSBN-628 TECUMSEH L-15 Jun 63  
 SSBN-626 D. WEBSTER L-1 Apr 63  
 SSBN-643  
 SSBN-644  
 SSBN-640  
 SSN-613 FLASHER L-Feb 63  
 SSN-614 GREENLIN G L-1 Jun 63  
 SSN-615 GATO L - Oct 63

IGNALLS SHBLDG CORP, PASCAGOULA, MISS

AS-32 HOLLAND L-19 Jan 63  
 SSN-639 TAUTOG KL- Jan 63  
 SSN-621 HADDOCK 18 Jan 64  
 SSN-596 BARB C-16 Jul 63  
 SSN-607 DACE C- May 63 or  
 8 Nov 63  
 SSN-648

PORTSMOUTH NSY, PORTSMOUTH, N.H.

AGSS-555 DOLPHIN C-1964  
 SSBN-636 N. GREENE 1 May 64  
 SSN-605 JACK L- 3/63  
 SSN-646  
 SSN-606 TINOSA C-15 Mar 63  
 SSBN-620 J, ADAMS C-Jul 63

UNASSIGNED AND INFORMATION NEEDED

CC-3 SAIPAN  
 SSN-650, 651, 652 and 653



AVONDALE SHBLDG CORP, AVONDALE, LA

DDG-19 TATTNALL C-Apr 63 @  
 CHASN, S.C.  
 DDG-20 GOLDSBOROUGH  
 DE-1038 MC CLOY C-10/63  
 DE-1037 BRONSTEIN C-6/63 @  
 CHASN, S.C.

DE-1042 through 1045

PUGET SOUND BRIDGE CO

DLG-21 GRIDLEY C-15 Mar 63  
 DEG-1 BROOKE L- Sep 63  
 DEG-2  
 DEG-3  
 DDG-22 STODDERT L- 8 Jan 63  
 DDG-21 COCHRANE  
 DDG-20 GOLDSBOROUGH \*\*\*\*\*

NEW YORK SHIPBUILDING, CAMDEN, N.Y.

DLG-19 DALE C- Oct 63  
 DLG-20 R.K. TURNER L-20 Apr 63  
 DDG-16 J. STRAUSS C-6 Mar 63-Phila  
 DDG-17 CONYNGHAM C-Jun 63- Phila  
 DLGN-35  
 SSN-604 HADDO C-Nov 63  
 SSN-603 POLLACK C- Jan 63  
 SSN-612 GUARDFISH L-3 Aug 63  
 SSN-647 KL-7 Oct 63

PUGET SOUND NSY,

DLG-31 STERRETT  
 CG-2 WRIGHT  
 DLG-24 REEVES  
 AOE-1 SACREMENTO L-4 May 63  
 DLG-29 HOUETTE  
 AS-33 KL- 7 Jan 63

MARE ISLAND NSY, VALLEJO, CALIF

SSBN-634 S. JACKSON L- Nov 63  
 SSBN-629 D. BOONE L-21 Jun 63  
 SSBN-624 W. WILSON L-22 FEB 63  
 SSBN-642 KL- Feb 62  
 SSBN-619 A. JACKSON C- Jul 63

L- Launching  
 KL- Keel laying  
 C- Commissioning  
 RC- Re-commissioning  
 DC- Decommissioning  
 NSY- Naval Shipyard  
 NY- New York  
 SF- San Francisco, Calif

\*\*\*\*\* unconfirmed see Avondale

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 "OPERATION EQUALANT" U.S. COAST AND GEODETIC SERVICE SHIP -Explorer and 13 other ships from five other countries including Russia will rendezvous on the Atlantic Ocean at the equator. A highlight in this joint venture, to study ocean currents and gather seawater samples, will be to particularly study countercurrents known to exist where such as the one that bucks the powerful Gulf Stream. Setting sail Feb 1st from Norfolk, Explorer will be enroute Dakar, Senegal and start operations from there about the 15th. Refueling is contemplated at Freetown, Sierra Leone and at Receife, Brazil about March 15th. Then, retracing her route she is expected to return to Norfolk, Virginia in April. Captain John C. Bull is Master and will be accompanied by Dr. Erik Hagmeir, biologist from Germany's Kiel University to study the known and unknown currents of the Atlantic.  
 X-CHANGE KORNER- Werner Hofferek, 86 Bamberg, Holunderweg 9, Germany sends German Naval Covers known as "BUNDESMARINE" from the ships GORCH FOCK, KOLN, ZERSTORER 1, UNTERSHEBOOT HECHT AND EMDEN. Information is at hand concerning German Warship covers but further research is being done on this subject. Thank you. Herrn Hofferek.

Hans Barnickel, 8600 Bamberg 1, Postfach 1066, Friedrichstrabe 10, Germany writes seeking USA satellite Discover or Explorer Covers.