



1 March 1964

Published monthly (except July and August) in the interest of philately and to provide collectors of U.S. Navy ship cachets and postmarks and special event covers with the news. Future issues may be obtained by a membership subscription necessary to defray the cost of materials and postage. Compiled and distributed by W.R. Skelley, Jr., 1210 Earle Avenue, West Chesapeake, Virginia 23506, U.S.A. Translated and reproduced in West Germany as "SchiffspostNews" by Dieter Lange, 42 Oberhausen, Keltenstr 14, West Germany. This newsletter supports the People-to-People Program. In this issue.. TRIESTE...PROJECT GEMINI Preliminary Philatelic Report...X-CHANGE KORNER...FOREIGN ships

Humor: They can't call you an old dog as long as you learn new tricks.....

REVISED, CORRECTED AND SQUARED AWAY PRELIMINARY PROJECT GEMINI PHILATELIC REPORT

Last month's report is corrected accordingly. Here is the report that you requested in response to recent news items in the philatelic press. The response has been gratifying and more and more friends have been introduced to the adventures of ship cover collecting. I am taking this opportunity to keep you informed. Many of you wrote to me indicating that you had a keen interest in USCS Cachet Sponsors and Directors. Morris W. Beck, P.O. Box 116, Whitewater, Wisconsin will service your stamped self-addressed covers bearing first class postage at a 2¢ per cover service fee. Send him 25 6-3/4 white envelopes and he will service your covers with a beautiful cachet from the ship recovery event. Covers received in excess of the number required in the Gemini Recovery will be serviced on some other important ship event.

Mr. Don Schultz, 1225 E. Marquette St., Appleton, Wisconsin - the backbone of the USCS Nuclear Ships Chapter will cachet your stamped self-addressed 6 3/4 white envelopes with a Gemini Cachet but will not service them. This means that you must include with your 5¢ per cover service fee additional postage for these covers to be returned to you. I do have the name and address of cover servicers at Cape Kennedy and they usually charge 10¢ per cover for servicing on the appropriate dates. It is recommended that the additional postage included with your covers to Mr. Schultz be sufficient to permit their return to you via First Class mail otherwise they may be received in a damaged condition if the Third Class service is used.

Mr. T.G. Nicholson, P.O. Box 8097, Norfolk, Virginia 23503 - a cover servicer since the 30's as a newspaper boy in the Norfolk Naval Shipyard does not service Gemini ship covers but covers launchings, commissionings and foreign ships visiting the Hampton Roads Area. He includes nuclear submarines, surface ships of all descriptions and types that can be obtained.

Foreign collectors using these services are requested to stamp or mark covers "PRINTED MATTER" bearing five cents U.S. Postage and the envelopes must remain unsealed with the flap tucked inside. All covers both foreign and domestic should contain a cardboard filler of stiffener of medium weight to prevent transit damage.

Here is your opportunity to get in on the initial philatelic coverage of the Gemini Project while sufficient time exists. Seldom has any society done so much for so little for so many collectors. Thank you for your interest but more especially for being a Navy supporter. Collectors are advised that when writing to these men it is proper to include a stamped self-addressed(long) envelope for their reply. This is commonly known as "philatelic Courtesy".

We do understand that every collector has an investment in his or her hobby and all of us are doing everything we are able to make our hobby the greatest at the lowest possible cost to the individual.

The first two Gemini flights will be unmanned and therefore information at hand indicates that they will not be recovered. However, late in May or June some more definite information is expected concerning manned flights and their recovery that do involve ships. This report will be sent to you in the other stamped self-addressed envelope that remains.

WATERFRONT GOSSIP: The ship news this month is lacking this month for the want of information and confirmation but here is what's coming up as I have it this date. USS AOE-1 Commissioning March 64 at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Seattle, Washington(SACREMENTO) SSN-603 POLLACK -Commissioning April 1964 at the New York Shipbuilding Co, Camden, N.J. SSN 612 GUARDFISH Launching Mar 64 at " " " " " " CG-11 CHICAGO recommissioning at the San Francisco Naval Shipyard in April 1964 DDG-21 COCHRANE commissioning March 1964 at the Puget Sound Bridge Co, Seattle, Washington DDG-22 ... commissioning 7 March 64 at the Todd Ship and Dry Dock



FLASH.....FLASH.... LAFAYETTE arrives at Rota, Spain. The Lafayette was the first missile firing submarine to enter this Atlantic Coast port. It tied up beside the 20,000 ton mother ship PROETUS, which arrived a week ago to inaugurate the 2nd U.S. Polaris base in Europe. (1 March 1964). Proteus came to Rota from Holy Loch, Scotland where the 1st U.S. overseas Polaris base was established 3 years ago.

PHILATELIC FACTS.. It is a well know fact to some of us who have regularly sponsored cachets or write about philatelic events; that collectors seldom purchase covers and stamps until they think they have a certain investment potential or in other words they are a "hot item". If they collected covers regularly and through the cachet sponsors they would seldom pay more than the service fee and postage involved. Last month, for example, I offered a printed monarch sized Alstede Independence Day (4 July 1962) cover for 10 cents each plus a SSAE #10. To date, I have sold ten covers but if I had offered them at 25 ¢ each the response would have been greater. Either that or people do not read the publications they pay for and subscribe. .If, I had a raft of covers to sell at 10 or 15 ¢ which, I do not then, I couldn't sell them but if someone advertises in another paper that this or that particular covers is available at \$1.00 - the rush is on. Collectors you see are really the folks who run up the price of covers by indicating a strong demand or investment potential. Enough said - they are still available at 10¢ or 6 different covers for \$1.00 postpaid until 1 Apr 1964 at which time I shall dispose of the remaining 100 or so to a dealer for the best offer received. These covers will make some dealer happy at the 10¢ price.

N/S SAVANNAH is tentatively scheduled to visit Bremerhaven, Germany this summer.

WANTED: The complete mailing address of Hilborn-Hamburger, Inc. New York.Thanks.

JUST RECEIVED... the largest rocket, sub, ship and autographed price list from R.J. Boudwin, 1119 Harker Ave, Woodbury, N.J. Send 25¢ to defray expenses in mailing & preparation.

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In 1855 the United States Navy had a Home Squadron, Brazil Squadron, African Squadron and a Pacific Squadron. The 1855 report of the Secretary of the Navy included a report on the Arctic Expedition reads " You are aware of the humane legislation of Congress directing the Secretary of the Navy "to provide and despatch a suitable naval or other steamer, and if necessary a tender, to the Arctic Seas, for the purpose of rescuing or affording relief to Passed Assistant Surgeon E.K. Kane, U.S. Navy, and the officers and men under his command. Provided that such steamer and tender shall be manned by volunteers from the Navy and others who may declare their willingness to be engaged." It is well-known that Dr. Kane left the U.S. in the humane search of Sir John Franklin, in June 1853, under orders from the Navy Department, and at the same time under the patronage of distinguished philanthropists. His report is brief, but full of startling incidents and thrilling adventures. A more detailed and elaborate report will ultimately be made. The discoveries made by this truly remarkable man and excellent officer will be regarded as valuable contributions to science. etc"

News of the World.....AUSTRALIA. HMAS Gascoyne and Diamantina operated last year as part of the International Indian Ocean Expedition. FRANCE: Captain J.Y. Cousteau's manned research "Floating Island" was scheduled to be moored in 1200 fathoms of water between Nice and Calvi..ISRAEL..Prof. Heinz Steinitz, Hebrew University, Jerusalem is planning another International Expedition to the Red Sea, this fall. A 1962 expedition involved the Ethiopian Navy and work is being coordinated with the International Indian Ocean Expedition.

Defense Secretary McNamara's authorization of \$10.6 billion for ships, planes and missiles, plus \$6.6 billion for research and development is 10% below fiscal 1964 authorizations. Missile production is down but aircraft is up. Contrary to earlier reports, no funds for procurement of Polaris subs are included in the budget.

GLASS SUBMARINES: Yup-it has been found that common glass, with it's unusually high compressive strength and relatively low weight has considerable potential as a structural material for deep submersible hulls. Glass in submersibles would be extremely useful in oceanographic research vessels. Marine organisms that attach themselves to the present steel sub hulls affect communications, sonar performance and speed but with glass who knows, what new problems might be encountered -I don't

CUTTER CHAUTAUQUA (W-41), FPO, Seattle, Washington, one of the four cutters based in Hawaii enroute to her Victor ocean station in the Pacific. Victor includes about 44,000 square miles half way between Japan and Midway at geological position 34° north lat. 164° East long. She safe guards life and property at sea keeping station at Station Victor.



X-CHANGE COLUMN: Needed the following in nuclear ship covers. Keel layings early 63 and earlier. 599,12 Patrol; 600,10 Patrol; 602,9 Patrol, 1st Med Patrol; 610,3 Patrol; 611,1 & 3 Patrol; 619 Torpedo Tests; 623 Polaris firing (5A); 629, in Service, rubber stamp; early commissioning and launching. Have for trade almost all 1963 and 64 covers and 594,C; 595C; 607,L; 609,C; 611,C 619,L; 625,L; CVAN65,C; Navy Day; DLGN-25,L Savannah, L and Cooper Flight covers. Write Robert D. Ekas, P.O. Box 146, Chicora, Pa.  
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 USCGC BRAMBLE (W-AGL 392) Anniversary Cachet available from Ed. H. Lameck, 1854 Wyandotte Street, East, Windsor, Ontario, Canada. Service fee is 5¢ per cover or purchase at 20¢ per cover. Available in color: Red, Blue and black inked cachets. Date of the event is April 22, 1964. The fees will go into the ship's recreation fund. Looks nice and should be a real asset to your ship cover collection. Thanks Edwin....  
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PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE. Charles Jarrett, P.O. Box 24, Granite Quarry, N.C. U.S.A. wants a chance to write to one or more West German collectors and exchange stamps and covers....Hugh M. Blackard, P.O. Box 118, Crockett, California 94525 has prepared a rubber stamp cachet of John Muir's Home in Martinez, Calif., and will service FDC of the John Muir Stamp for anyone in the USA, Canada or Mexico at the following rates: One stamp 10¢; block of 4 @ 25¢. Foreign 20¢ each. (Gummed labels appreciated). FD of issue is 29 April, at the Martinez Post Office... Jeff Moore, Route #1, Box 205, Arnold, Missouri is interested in corresponding with someone in West Germany, who can correspond in English to exchange some Kennedy covers and other philatelic material(See item on Project Mercury covers ).

AVAILABLE FOR X\*CHANGE: 1-Woodrow Wilson, 1st Sea Trial; 4-Andrew Jackson, 1st Submerged firing A-3 Polaris missile(Blue). Wanted in exchange-Nuclear submarine covers. SSAE for replies. M.D. McGlaughlin, 32600 Bagley Road, North Ridgeville, Ohio 44039.... Tom Dixon, P.O. Box 75, Brooklyn, N.Y. (dealer) seeks tracking ship covers(T-AGM) from the Project Mercury flights. Has nuclear sub covers to trade. Needs T-AGM 2 & 6 from the Schirra flight. Will trade or purchase. Also seeking Cooper Ship Recovery covers from Forest Royal and Davis.

NEW YORK CITY EXHIBITION BY ED HEIM.....

Ed Heim is exhibiting ship covers at the Seaman's Bank, Fifth Avenue Branch. Why not drop by if your in the area and give his morale a boost. Your favorable comments to bank personnel encourage and assist in making the exhibits more welcomed.

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 Confucius said, " In all things success depends upon previous preparation." I think that this is particularly true in care and preparation of your covers before and after the events.

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PUBLICATION AVAILABLE: Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. ..Submarine Recognition Manual (NavPers 10011) @ .35 cents  
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ALUMINAUT launching is expected in May at New London and so far as I know no one has mentioned covering this event. See item on Underwater Technology for more information.  
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ROTA, SPAIN PICKED FOR POLARIS BASE. By spring the Navy's newest submarine tender USS HOLLAND(AS-32) will be established at our second overseas polaris submarine base. Her squadron of nuclear subs will comprise of LAFAYETTE, A. HAMILTON, JAMES MONROE, JOHN ADAMS, NATHAN HALE and others still under construction. USS OAK RIDGE will assist the subs also with her converted floating drydock hull. Mid-March is my own estimate of her date on station.

PROJECT MERCURY COVERS with a new twist....

Here is something that may be of interest to collectors of Project Mercury material. Some time ago, while leafing through a U.S. Atlas it occurred to me that certain towns and cities of the U.S. bear names that are very fitting and appropriate to our space events. For instance, I found several towns named Mercury and one in northern California with the interesting name of "Project City". I Mailed covers to each of these towns in Care of the Postmaster requesting that he or she postmark them and return them at once(don't ask them to hold covers for events). I put Project Mercury stamps on these covers, returned with these interesting cancels. By combining the two you come up with two cancellations with "Project Mercury". From here I want to the various Mercury space capsules, I found "Friendship, Teen; Aurora, Mo.; Faith, S.C.; Still seeking a town or city named "Sigma" & there is one. Jeff Moore....



DLG-28 WAINWRIGHT Launching 4-25-64 at Bath Iron Works, Bath, Maine  
DLG-20 R.K.TURNER Commissioning was scheduled Feb 64 New York Shipbuilding, Camden, N.J.??  
DDG-23 R. E. BYRD Commissioning 7 Mar 64 at the Todd Shipyard Corp, San Francisco  
SSBN-626 D. WEBSTER commissioning April 1964 at EBCO, Gronton, Conn  
LPD-4 AUSTIN launching at the New York Naval Shipyard, Brooklyn, N.Y.

HERE IS YOUR CHANCE - 5¢ A MONTH

Would you spend 5¢ a month to further your hobby and make it know to others? Collectors are often called upon or see the opportunity to do jobs in research and other cover projects and they usually give you this line - I just don't have the time or maybe someday I'll get around to it. Well, I would like to propose that there is a way collectors can begin and a beginning is a start.

It is all voluntary of course, you, you and you - military style. Let's presume you are really interested and want to see your hobby and Navy go-go-go!

Would you still spend 5¢ a month? If so, read on further, if not STOP HERE. Don't read another line because you might not rest well tonight. But, if you do believe in the program then you must do it right now and putting it off until the morrow just will not do.

Collectors like sailors are "goodwill ambassadors" and if you do not believe that sailors are the world's best public relations team, then you should investigate the U.S. Navy and the People-to-People Program, Solant Amity V, Project Handclasp and Helping hand, to mention a few projects.

This month, I would like to suggest the inauguration of a program that could during a period of a few months reap every collector some benefits and at the same time endow you with the title "Navy Supporter". People really get the most pleasure in life when they feel that they are helping someone else or at least I do.

I like you, have been "intending" to do something for the benefit of U.S.C.S. and the Navy but man where is the time. So you see my friends, it's the same old story even with me. Here is the idea. Each month collectors send one duplicate cover from his or her collection (worthy of exhibiting) to some public library, museum, bank, Navy recruiting station, Reserve Training Center, base or ship. Arrangements should be made in advance to insure that someone at that activity is interested in exhibiting the covers we send. Monthly, Navphilately readers may send in their nominations to me and I will select one entry on the basis of location and size of the area served. I would like to kick-off this

program by nominating Mrs. Dean, Librarian U.S. Naval Station Library, Norfolk, Va 23511, who has the facilities and is interested in displaying ship-n-space covers. Being a Navy supporter, Mrs. Dean is most interested in the naval personnel she so professionally serves. Her devotion to the off duty hourly needs of the fleet and her determination to make this centre of learning - top's in the area is appreciated. The library is located in the center of activity and easily accessible to the fleet. She has consented to allow me to display some of my own covers but I just haven't found the time to get them mounted and written up. We keep talking about exhibiting at our Chapter meeting but that is about as far as we go. What do you think of the program? Will you help? If so, you have the details. Shall we begin - my cover is in the mail. This month, I sent each one of you a cover in the envelope with the paper. How did it feel to receive it? A good feeling I hope and do not send her this one because I have already done so. Since many of you AMA fans have undoubtedly quit smoking and are saving your cigarette money plus combined with the anticipated tax cut - you won't really miss that nickel will you? What's up Doc - had any nicotine fits lately? Have fun....

CIMARRON CACHET

I was saving this page for next month but I decided I had better get this one out to you. 25th Anniversary of the oldest Navy ship on active duty. Deadline for receipt of your covers is 10 March 1964. Mail to: ENS. M.W. RUCK, USN - Public Information Officer, USS CIMARRON(AO-22), F.P.O., San Francisco, Calif.

DENEbola-AF-56

Formerly the Hibbing Victory celebrates 20th Anniversary 1944-1964.

AUCTION RESULTS

Mike Festa, 2117 W. Somerset Street, Phila., Pa 19132 writes "Thanks very much for your confidence and trust; received the covers (auction) in the mail today and am very pleased with them etc." Kinda makes a fella feel he has two people the buyer and the seller. This auction was Bro. Olander's covers.(OFM). DEALER AND SUBSCRIBER'S NOTICE.. Largest published price list. Rockets, ship, astronauts, autographs, arctic, subs, launching covers. Send 25¢ stamps or coin refunded first order. Robert Boudwin, 1119 Harker Ave, Woodbury, N.J. This is not a paid advertisement. STURGEON BAY, WISCONSIN.. Lowest bidder and builder of a new survey ship T-AGS-27. More details as the develop.



## UNDER WATER TECHNOLOGY

### THRESHER SEARCH TO CONTINUE.

Deep ocean studies will be made by the bathyscape TRIESTE II this spring in the area where the submarine THRESHER sank in 8,400 feet of water with 129 men aboard. The Navy says the search for the THRESHER was called off last September 5th but obviously it expects that some new light can be shed on the mystery of what caused THRESHER to sink. When, TRIESTE II goes out again, she will have a new float and other new gear, including motors capable of driving it further and faster along the sea floor. The search job has been estimated as being 90% completed. Collectors desiring a cover from the TRIESTE II events are advised to send their SSAE-6/4 to Ray Duffy, 29 Jefferson Street, Winthrop, Mass. A service fee of 5¢ per cover is requested. Suggestions for cachet artwork will be appreciated.

SUBMARINE VEHICLES--Considerable development has been made in the construction of exploratory submarine vehicles. Apart from the series of bathyscapes which have pioneered deep sea exploration during the last decade, there now exist several self-contained submersibles, such as Westinghouse's DEEPSTAR, designed to operate at depths of 12,000 feet; Woods Hole's ALVIN, depth capability of 6,000 feet; and the Navy's nearly completed ALUMINAUT, being built to carry a crew of three to 15,000 foot depths. Such vehicles, in addition to remotely-operated unmanned submersibles, will be of immense value in sea-bottom studies, and once they are past the development stage, their adaptation to engineering pursuits, rather than scientific, will be rapid.

SUBROC - Navy's most advanced anti-submarine weapon, an underwater-launched missile capable of killing enemy submarines at long range, has successfully completed a major testing program and is moving toward operational status. The basic idea of an underwater-launched ASW missile which could be effective at long range was conceived a number of years ago. Once SUBROC is operational, Navy subs will have a weapon capable of pinpointing a nuclear payload on a submerged enemy submarine many miles away. SUBROC, unlike POLARIS, is designed to be launched horizontally from standard submarine torpedo tubes, using conventional ejection methods. Once, SUBROC is a safe distance from the moving submarine, a solid fuel rocket motor ignites underwater upon re-entry into the water, the depth bomb sinks and it destroys enemy sub.

"COME IN NAUTILUS A-1!.." In an age when even air was sent down by the barrel to a precarious 18th Century diving bell, only a Jules Verne(20,000 Leagues under the Sea) could anticipate our present day abilities to sea, hear and communicate underseas. With modern hydro/space techniques our Navy ASW people can pinpoint enemy intruders at extreme ranges. Our own submarines maintain full communication while remaining submerged indefinitely. The Navy is constantly improving our state of the art.

WEST GERMAN SUBMARINE ACTIVITY: West Germany has developed a new "pocket" submarine that can do 25 knots on the surface, 20 submerged. The West German Navy has ordered 10 of them. Orders also have been put in by Denmark, Norway, and Turkey. The new craft is designed solely for coastal operations. Other similar craft, don't have the range to stab into Iron Curtain coastal waters along the Baltic. The new U-Boat us reported to have tubes for 8 torpedoes, which can be atom-tipped. West Germany has also launched technical study for an atomic-driven cargo submarine which would be able to operate independent of waves, wind and ice at speeds up to 50 knots.(A knot- a nautical mile or 6,076.10 feet).Capt. H. Giessler, German Navigatio Society visualized cargo submarines displacing 6-7,000 tons and with operating ranges of 130,000 miles. Giessler also visualized chartered underwater shipping lanes marked with submarine buoys that would serve as underwater relay communications stations. Giessler's contention is that surface sea transportation is outmoded, that the logical operating area for nuclear maritime propulsion is under the water, and that West Germany would be wasting its money if it concentrated on surface transportation for nuclear ships.

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USS PROTEUS(AS-19), the Navy's first Polaris sub tender, following her Holy Loch tour will be deployed to the Pacific and after her deployment move to Guam in the fall. USS HUNLEY(AS-31) is the first vessel of it's class.



FOREIGN SHIPS WITH POSTAL MARKINGS - MARCH 1964

By: Bill Luetge (USCS 3938)

Jumping from France to the Orient I have information that the Japanese ships ARGENTINA MARU and BRAZIL MARU have a form of postal marking. Collectors may obtain this marking by sending their covers to: Name of the ship, c/o Purser, Osaka Shosen Kaisha Ltd., I-Sazecho Kita-ku, Osaka City, Japan or 5 Kaigan-Dori, Ikutaku, Kobe, Japan.

Postage required for surface mail is 40 Yen. The Ministry of Posts, P.O. Box 11, Tokyo, Japan might be able to assist you with postage request in the event that you do not know of any other source.

TYPE CHART OF FOREIGN SHIP CANCELS

The writer of this series is planning to prepare a type chart which will list all types of foreign ship postal markings in an easy to understand format. It has been learned that sufficient likeness exist to make this chart possible. Here is where you come in. Please - many of you have no doubt own foreign ship cancellations and sending me a brief description of these cancels will assist in the preparation of the proposed chart. The sooner this information is received, the sooner work may begin. This chart will be made available to all collectors of ship cancellations. It is hoped that this job may be completed this year but it all depends upon you. Will you help me? If so, please send me any information that you have to: William J. Luetge, 3211 North 44th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53216. Thank you mucho. Ed. Note: Bill has bitten off a pretty big chunk of something to chew this year but I believe it will be worthwhile and even though I do not believe that it will be completed this year at least some progress will begin. Projects of this type are constantly under revision and a continuous series of revisions will in all probability be in order before the first draft is published. Good luck and good hunting.

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National Aeronautical Space Agency lists 40 orbiting satellites...At last count the NASA numbered 40 satellites in space- 35 of them orbiting the earth and 5 in solar orbits. Soon the U.S. may have to orbit a traffic cop because of crowded conditions up there. The satellites, most of which are still active, are doing any number of jobs. Some broadcast important space data back to earth; others are probing weather conditions or relaying television signals. Here is the NASA box score of orbiting satellites, including launch dates: 1959: VANGUARD II, 17FEB; PIONEER IV, 3 Mar; VANGUARD III, 18 Sep; EXPLORER VII, 13 Oct. 1960: PIONEER V, 11 Mar; TIROS I, 1 Apr; ECHO I, 12 Aug; EXPLORER VIII, 3 Nov; TIROS II, 23 Nov. 1961: EXPLORER IX, 16 Feb; EXPLORER X, 25 Mar; EXPLORER XI, 27 Apr; TIROS III, 12 JUL; EXPLORER XII, 15 Aug.

1962: RANGER III, 26 Jan; TIROS IV, 8 Feb; OSO I, 7 Mar; ARIEL I, 26 Apr; TIROS V, 19 Jun; TELESTAR I, 10 Jul; MARINER II, 27 Aug; TIROS VI, 18 Sep; ALOUETTE I, 29 Sep; EXPLORER XIV, 2 Oct; RANGER V, 18 Oct; EXPLORER XV, 27 Oct; RELAY I, 31 DEC; EXPLORER XVI, 16 Dec.

1963: SYNCOM I, 14 Feb; EXPLORER XVII, 2 Apr; TELESTAR II, 7 May; TIROS VII, 19 Jun; SYNCOM II, 26 Jul; EXPLORER XVIII, 26 Nov; CENTAUR I, 27 Nov; EXPLORER XIX, 19 Dec; TIROS VIII, 21 Dec.

1964: RELAY II, 21 Jan; ECHO II, 25 Jan; SATURN I, 29 Jan; PIONEER IV, and V, RANGER III and V, and Mariner II are the satellites in solar orbit.

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IN THE MEDITERRANEAN: Enterprise and 14 other ships sight the "Rock of Gibraltar". MARIAS and ALLAGASH (tankers), WRANGELL (ammunition ship), destroyers- NOA, MERIDITH, AULT, STRIBLING, K.D. BAILEY, GOODRICH, TURNER and the destroyer tender EVERGLADES. PRATT, LUCE and FARRAGUT are the guided missile frigates in company.

ROTA, SPAIN picked for our second overseas Polaris submarine base. USS HOLLAND (AS-32) with a squadron of nuclear submarines - LAFAYETTE, A. HAMILTON, J. MONROE, J. ADAMS, NATHAN HALE, and some other submarines still under construction plus the USS OAK RIDGE will assist the subs with her converted floating drydock hull.

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U.S.C.S. needs YOU and YOU need U.S.C.S. - a national organization devoted to your hobby....



## THE NAVY'S UNDERWATER BALLOON - - - THE BATHYSCAPH TRIESTE

The bathyscaph (deep boat) was conceived, designed and constructed by Professor Auguste Picard of Switzerland. The second one he built was the TRIESTE. It was launched near Naples, Italy, in 1953, and for four years operated in the sunny Mediterranean waters. In 1957, the United States Office of Naval Research contracted with Professor Picard for a series of dives to evaluate the craft. Upon completion of all the tests, the craft was purchased by the United States government and Jacques, Professor Picard's son came to the United States with it to indoctrinate Navy personnel in operating and maintaining the craft. The vessel was assigned to the Navy Electronics Laboratory at San Diego, California, because of its projected use in connection with the laboratory's extensive oceanographic research program. Other considerations included favorable weather conditions for year-round operations, proximity of deep ocean water, and ample fleet support facilities based at San Diego.

In the simplest comparison, a bathyscaph is an underwater balloon. As such, it has the same two major assemblies as the air balloons: a buoyancy chamber (called the float) and the cabin (called sphere). Just as the balloon bag is filled with lighter-than-air-gas, so the float is filled with a lighter-than-air fluid. Also, like the balloon, the craft is designed to go up and down by releasing ballast and accomplishes these maneuvers by either discharging steel ballast or valving off fluid to make the craft lighter or heavier than the surrounding water. The TRIESTE's new float, installed during a 1961 overhaul, contains 45,000 gallons of aviation gasoline and provides the lift. The end compartments are floodable, and when filled with sea water, the craft has a slightly negative buoyancy. Depending on the depth of the proposed dive, a balance must be established between the buoyancy and the payload. When the craft starts down, the increasing pressure compresses the gasoline. When this happens, equalizing valves on the underside of the float allow sea water to enter the float. When the craft ascends, sea water is pushed out again. Bathyscaph ballast, small "BB" size steel shot, is carried in two huge tubs. Discharge of the ballast is controlled by an electromagnetic valve in the orifice of each tub.

The sphere is the only significant pressure resistant part of the bathyscaph. The TERNI sphere, presently in use, is designed for an operating depth of 20,000 feet. All controls for operating while submerged are inside the sphere, as are all monitoring devices, oxygen regenerators, and much of the scientific recording gear. The small amount of space remaining is occupied by the pilot and one or two observers. The observation window is made of six inch plexiglass.

Some of the better publicized feats of the TRIESTE include its record breaking dive in 1960, and the search operations conducted by the craft during the summer of 1963 for the submarine THRESHER.

On January 23, 1960, the TRIESTE, piloted by Lieutenant Don Walsh, U.S. Navy and Jacques Picard, penetrated nearly seven miles into the Challenger Deep, off the island of Guam in the Western Pacific. The verified depth was 35,800 feet, an established world's record. The round trip took nine hours.

In the THRESHER search, the bathyscaph, although not originally designed as a search vessel, brought back photographs, small amounts of debris, and other information which was beneficial to the Navy in its investigation of the disaster..

The TRIESTE, recently recommissioned the TRIESTE II, has undergone modifications at the Navy Electronics Laboratory which will increase visibility from the sphere. Additional lights have been installed to provide more illumination and the vessel's underwater maneuvering speed has been increased from one to two knots.



TRIESTE - continued. The present scientific program at the Navy Electronics Laboratory utilizes the bathyscaph in problems of acoustics, physical oceanography, and for sea studies off the Southern California coast.

The vessel is expected to be shipped to the East Coast of the United States about 1 May, launched at Boston and towed to the scene of the THRESHER tragedy. It has not yet been decided whether the TRIESTE II will be used to search for the hull of the sunken submarine or simply to conduct oceanographic research in the area. The reason for conducting such research in this area is that it has become, because of the THRESHER hunt, one of the best known and studied pieces of ocean bottom anywhere in the world.

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ENVELOPES: The envelopes that have been sent to collectors have been reported by all as a good quality and suitable for their purposes. Unfortunately, the Post Office Department's Demolition Squad is in action and the cartons arrive in horrible shape. Here is a solution to the problem and may be of greater value to the individual collector. If the following suggestion is in your opinion an improvement then please write to me prior to 1 April 1964, so I may either discontinue sending your envelopes completely or maybe continue under the new proposal. The procedure is to prepare a box of envelopes containing the 3 most frequently used sizes and ship them to you in a stronger container. 150 each will be packed or rather re-packed. This will permit you to receive a wider variety of envelopes and the new package proposed will consist of 450 envelopes. The price will have to be worked out but the increase should be the cost of a heavy mailing carton. If your orders are sufficient or pre-production orders are received to be ordered before 31 Dec 1964 then I can proceed under the new system otherwise I await your advice. I am sure that you have a legitimate complaint but they are wrapped and taped well upon being delivered to the post office. Remember, if I have to purchase special packing materials and cartons - you will be expected to absorb the cost. What are your wishes????? Keep smiling it doesn't hurt...  
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JANUARY AND FEBRUARY AUCTION CHECKS... A few collectors have neglected to send me their remittance for the covers they purchased in Jan and Feb - Please do so at your earliest convenience as I would like to send Brother Olander, OFM his check for the proceeds real soon.

YANKEE AND DAM YANKEE.. When, I crossed the border from Yankee Territory some 15 years ago the Portsmouth Rebs hereabouts told me on no uncertain terms that I was a Dam Yankee. In defense, I asked for an explanation of the difference between a Yankee and a Dam Yankee. Here was there answer: A Yankee stays homw but a Dam Yankee doesn't. - all in jest you know. This brings me around to another Yankee who left the most beautiful part of New England (Vermont and New Hampshire) - O.S. Hayward, 1236 Mound St, Madison, Wisconsin. Mr. Hayward writes that he wishes manufacturers of postcards would leave the entire back side blank. You folks who agree with his idea and suggestion should write to the company listed on the backside of the postcards you hold and let your suggestions be known. Also, he points out that due to an increase in foreign ship covers and the increased transfer of U.S. ships to foreign governments as reported in this paper and the USCS Log, we need sponsors or assistant sponsors in the membership ranks of USCS who are employed at the various naval ship yards to assist us in obtaining these transfer covers. I Personally feel that it might be worked out with T.G. Nicholson but time hasn't permitted me to discuss the idea with him as yet.

AUTOGRAPHED COVERS.. Brony J. Szymer, 352 E. Windsor Ave, Phoenix, Arizona 85004 specializes in collecting autographed ship covers. We also have quite a few ship covers bugs in Phoenix and I feel certain that another USCS Chapter is in order providing someone in Phoenix is willing to assume the leadership. STAMP DUPLICATES... I hate to do this but here goes anyway. During the past three years I have accumulated a great deal of mint and used stamps on and off paper. Many of these stamps are topical sets and I am only mentioning this fact for what it is worth to you because at the present time I will not and do not have any time to catalog and price them in fact I do not own a U.S. Stamp catalog. Are you interested?

RUBBER STAMP CHART.. The enclosed rubber stamp chart is included for your information and use. Grubb Rubber Stamp Co., 210 W. Bate St, Norfolk, Va offers high quality and long lasting rubber stamps on a same day basis service by mail. Mr. Powell is a man of his word and can be depended upon to send you a name and address stamp immediately. When, I needed a stamp while on sea duty Mr. Powell promptly airmailed it and it was always received before the deadline date. You can of course, find rubber stamps at a cheaper price but the styling and quality are not duplicated. Please mention my recommendation -no profit-a pal..



SSBN-636 N. GREENE Launching March 64 at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, N.H.  
SSBN-634 D. BOONE Commissioning 23 Apr 64 at Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Vallejo, Calif.  
DLG-24 REEVES Commissioning May 64 at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Seattle, Washington  
SSBN-627 J. MADISON Commissioning 15 May 64 Newport News Shipbuilding Corp, Newport News, Va  
KL-651 and 654 May 1964

U.S. COAST GUARD HAPPENINGS: Recently, the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter SALVIA transported the first nuclear powered deep sea weather station in the Gulf of Mexico. The 60 watt nuclear generator, designated SNAP-7D, was developed for the Atomic Energy Commission. The 10 year design lifetime of the un-manned weather station (SNAP-7D) will eliminate the need for costly and sometimes hazardous maintenance operations required by relatively short-lived conventional batteries. Transported from Mobile, Alabama to the mooring site at 25° north latitude and 90° west longitude, near the center of the Gulf of Mexico.

1964 COAST GUARD SUMMER TRAINING PLANS ANNOUNCED. Leaving New London, Conn., on 5 June the cutters YAKUTAT and ABSECON will visit Hamburg, Germany on June 18th. The training ship EAGLE will visit San Juan, P.R., 23-25 June, Bermuda 3-7 July with the cutters leaving Hamburg for Stockholm, Sweden for a 22-28 June visit, thence all ships will rendezvous at the New York World's Fair on 13 July and remain in New York for about a week. Before, terminating the cruise all ships mentioned will be visiting Quebec, Canada for a three day visit beginning about 19 July. Captain William K. Earle is Commanding the Eagle; Captain Corliss B. Lambert, Commands the Yakutat and Commander Jack E. Forester is Captain of the Absecon.

SHIP CACHETS ANNOUNCED: LT. W. E. INMAN, USN - USS CAVALLA (AGSS-244), FPO, New York, N.Y. servicing 20th Anniversary Cachet on February 29th at Philadelphia, Pa.

KEEL-LAYING CACHET SPONSORED BY USCS SAGINAW CHAPTER- The keel laying of SSBN-658 are available at 25¢ each from Jack Howland, 1206 Coronel, Vallejo, California. Mr. Howland will be happy to receive inquires about another newly formed USCS Chapter in the greater San Francisco area.

PAKISTAN TO GET USS DIABLO (AGSS <sup>479</sup>). Diablo to be transferred to the Pakistan Navy at New London, Conn by or before 1 June 1964. This auxiliary submarine will get underway from New London on July 20th enroute to Pakistan with two U.S. officers and 5 enlisted men plus the Pakistan crew.

SGT. George N. Schraga, USMCR, 57 Jackson St, Passaic, New Jersey needs assistance with collecting military insignias and patches. Potential USCS member? Maybe naval covers with Armed Forces insignias?

FRIGATE DALE, the ninth ship of her class and built at the New York Shipbuilding Corp., Camden, New Jersey is the newest addition to the Pacific Fleet. POLLACK, the Navy's 37th nuclear powered and 20th attack submarine has successfully completed her 1st trials both surfaced and submerged.

Mrs. Dorathea E. Heriott, 418 East 9th Street, Sansas City, Mo. 64106 is interested in obtaining match book covers from different ships and stations. Looks like we might get another Chapter in Kansas City or St. Louis in the not too distant future.

Robert D. Ekas, P.O. Box 146, Chicora, Pa is servicing ship anniversary covers for those on his list. This list is available for a SSAE #10. USS SOUTHERLAND (DDO743) celebrates her 20th birthday on December 22nd. Collectors send covers plus a 2¢ per cover servicing fee. It is important to specify SOUTHERLAND when send Bob your covers as he is covering others also.

M.S.T.S. ships in the news - all F.P.O. New York, N.Y. USNS YUKON, CARD, CROATAN, SHORT-SPLICE, LAURENTIA and PIONEER VALLEY. Here is a shipping name that popped up the other day that may be of some interest in the future...Nigerian National Shipping Line, Lagos, Nigeria.

PUBLICATION: United States Guided Missiles - Date from press releases and photographs of U.S. Guided Missiles. Catalog No. D 4:2 G 94/3 @ .40 cents. Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D.C.



As members of the Navy, we are vitally concerned with anything that affects the balance of power between the Western Allies and the Communist Bloc. The continuing expansion of the Soviet Navy seriously threatens this balance.

At the end of the second World War, Russia's Navy was seventh largest in the world. Today, the Russian Navy is second, and continues to close the gap between itself and the United States Navy, which remains first.

This stride by the Soviets has brought about a drastic alteration of the balance of power. A projection of the trend in Russian shipbuilding from World War II to the present gives us an uncomfortable picture. This picture is an arrangement of a formidable fleet of submarines, both conventional and nuclear powered, and missile equipped; a growing fleet of surface guided missile ships; the world's largest and most modern fleet of fishing trawlers; and a large fleet of survey ships engaged in a massive worldwide oceanographic research effort.

The most disturbing aspect of this concentrated shipbuilding program is that the Russians are replacing and expanding their fleet with new ships. They are not depending on conversion or modifying of old hulls to fit the needs of modern naval warfare. Although this is also true of several other navies, notably those of Germany, Italy, Japan and Indonesia, the scale of the Russian undertaking has been truly remarkable. This point is made in the 1963-64 edition of the authoritative "Jane's Fighting Ships".  
Quote:

It is somewhat ironical that while the Navy of the mighty United States, the senior partner of the victorious Allies, is in danger of becoming top heavy with the weight of its outdated, war-built hulls. Although of course the United States of America has built in recent years the biggest and most sophisticated warships in every major category, the navies of the so-called defeated nations are rising on a pinnacle of new steel, unfettered by the dead wood of a generation gone.

The USSR has made sufficient progress with the building of a new spearhead in the shape of new warships, including guided missile ships and nuclear submarines, that she has been able to discard her long streaming tail of older warships.

The Soviet Navy has the most powerful submarine fleet the world has ever known. Even excluding training and obsolescent units, there are believed to be over 400 effective submarines including 25 nuclear-powered, and over 40 armed with guided missiles. According to the Commander-in-Chief of the Soviet Navy, submarines constitute the Soviet Union's main striking force at sea. Unquote.

Jane's notes that Russia has "the most powerful fleet the world has ever known. The U.S. Navy enjoys an edge in nuclear submarine propulsion, and most American experts doubt that the Russians have anything to match the potency of our Polaris subs.

However, there is no guarantee that the Russians will not produce a weapon comparable to Polaris in the near future. Also, as Jane's points out, "It is not unreasonable to assume that, if the United States can turn out nuclear-powered submarines at the rate of 10 or 12 per year, so also can the Soviet Union."

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Mrs. Bernhardt T. Berman, 163 Hempstead Avenue, Malverne, L.I., New York is interested in obtaining covers with Project Mercury Stamps cancelled 2-20-62 and foreign covers bearing foreign stamps cancelled same date. Can anyone assist her?//////////.



SCOUTING - the cornerstone of a healthy America.

The past few months I have been busy working on some articles concerning nuclear ships, airships, cover mounting, but my favorite research project has been pondering over a stamp album page to be used by boys and girls especially children interested in scouting. My intention was to provide a set of pages that could be obtained inexpensively but at the same time encourage scouts to earn another merit badge toward that Eagle or Curved Bar Rank.

Background: The basic and beginning Boy Scout requirement is to mount and exhibit: (1) a collection of 750 or more different stamps from at least thirty countries or (2) a collection of 150 or more different stamps of a single country or closely related group or (3) a collection of 75 or more different stamps on some special subject such as birds, trees, great men, music, ships, space, aviation or some other stamp topic related to the field of scouting. Sort of like collecting " Stamps that I like best."

Therefore, it is with the topical view that I have laid out this page format in an effort to stress quality rather than quantity.

Experience indicates that when earning advancement achievements or merit badges, the best idea is start planning ahead during those early years of scouting and not allow all of the more difficult and time consuming requirements to pile up in the teenage years. Teenagers tend to become impatient and discouraged in these formative years as they experience physical changes and heavier school workloads.

These pages are laid out to accomodate at least 20 stamps and pages can be punched to fit a standard three ring loose leaf binder. It is expected that each individual will use his own initiative to prepare his own title page and decorate and fabricate his album covers which can be done inexpensively.

My son and I accomplished this with some green drug store wrapping paper, clippings of Scouts on Stamps from back issues of Boy's Life and a yard of transparent material from the oilcloth department of our local variety or ten cent store. We covered the looseleaf binder with the green paper, pasted the clippings on both outer sides of the cover album and then covered the entire album with the transparent material.

Be a good Scout and send me your ideas, comments and recommendations on how to make this proposed non-profit project a reality. Deadline: 1 April 1964. Thanks Should I use pastel colored paper? instead or the usual white?

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News bits from other collectors.. Harry Benedict, 663 Sunningdale, Inkster, Michigan will service up to five covers bearing the USCS Dobbins Chapter Cachet postmarked in Detroit without charge. Also anyone wishing to enclose one naval cover with their request their covers will be postmarked at the Detroit River Boat Branch Post Office after it opens in the spring. Mr. Benedict sent me a couple Project Mercury covers cancelled on a postage meter dated 2-20-62...Roger Laverty, reports he has received a nice cachet from the USS LANSING(DER-388), FPO, S.F. depicting the ship and motto "SOME MAY BE LARGER BUT NONE BETTER."...Charles Brown, Sr. 6721 So. Broadway, St. Louis, Missouri is interested in membership in the proposed St. Louis USCS Chapter and has two other interested friends ..Well how about it you all..... Erwin Woerndel, (printing), 441 West 24th Street, Houston, Texas writes that he has a few nuclear sub and possible a couple Polar covers (Camp Tutto), USS NORFOLK(DL-1), Savannah visits Galveston(nice ) and will trade for Nuclear sub covers before April 1963.(Launching and commissioning) and space. Has a lot more topicals including first flight airs. SSAE for reply...Theo Brouwer, Box 1626, Amsterdam, Holland has available for exchange printed cacheted covers of space events, Glenn, Schirra, Cooper and other foreign covers commemorating other space astronauts or science achievements. He desires in exchange covers with only printed cachets(not stamped). SEND IRC and self-addressed envelope.  
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