

From The Captain's Chair



job of making us about as unseaworthy as a ship can get.

This shipyard overhaul is important to the USS BENNINGTON and important to the Navy. To keep abreast of the rapid technical advances the Navy must continually modernize her ships and aircraft. She must also insure that the older machinery and guns and tackle continue to function reliably. So we are seeing a lot of older equipment being replaced by newer equipment and some being repaired or renewed.

An overhaul is a trying period for personnel attached to a ship. It is also a real challenge to a ship. All in all, about seven million dollars will be spent on BENNINGTON, and it is our job to see that we get the maximum amount of work accomplished. This requires the constant attention of those of you who are in a supervisory capacity to see that jobs are done on time and done properly. It also calls for the expenditure of a large measure of hard work, both mental and manual, on the part of all hands.

Fortunately, we are in a shipyard with the best of reputations. They have overhauled many carriers before BENNINGTON, and have a great deal of experience and know-how. We can learn a lot from them during this yard period.

I am sure that many of you have been through an overhaul before and know that all the hard work and effort is, in the end, worthwhile. I am positive that this will be the opinion of all of us when we return with BENNINGTON next spring to rejoin the fleet.

CAPT Healy Takes Helm

(Cont. from front page)

who escorted Mrs. F. B. Shultz, wife of RADM Shultz, Commander of the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, was one of the many guests. Others who attended the military function included the Honorable Mayor Donstad, CAPT J.M. Elliott, Commanding Officer of the Naval Ammunition Depot, Bangor, and many others.

The new C.O. reported to BENNINGTON from the USS SIRIUS (AF-60), of which he assumed command in August 1961. CAPT Ferguson departed BENNINGTON for duty with the Bureau of Naval Weapons.

A native of St. Paul, Minn., CAPT Healy attended St. Thomas College and the University of Minnesota, where he received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Aeronautical Engineering. He was designated a naval aviator on Dec. 8, 1938 and commissioned an ensign in the U.S. Naval Reserve on Jan. 1, 1939.

A few of CAPT Healy's past duties include service with several patrol squadrons; Commander, Fleet Air, West Coast; the Bureau of Aeronautics; the Bureau of Naval Weapons; Air Officer of the USS CAPE GLOUCESTER (CVE-100); Executive Officer and later Commanding Officer of the USS BADOENG STRAIT (CVE-116); and Executive Officer of NAS, Litchfield Park, Ariz.

(See last page for change of command photograph.)