



## New Pay Grade Eligibility Goes Into Effect Soon

The Bureau of Naval Personnel announced recently that enlisted personnel in pay grade E-2 will need six months in pay grade or eight months total service and E-3's will need six months in pay grade or 14 months total service in order to be eligible for advancement.

This change effecting eligibility for advancement in rating will become effective November 18, 1957.

At the present time, personnel in pay grade E-2 need only five months total service to take the exam for promotion and those in pay grade E-3 become eligible for third class after six months in pay grade and 11 months service.

The Bureau emphasized that this new policy will insure that all personnel will be thoroughly trained and prepared for advancement. Furthermore, due to the reduced number of discharges anticipated in the future, the petty officer replacement rate will be more stable under this new system.

Further details are available in BuPers Instruction 1414.38, dated April 25, 1957.

The modern aircraft carrier can operate as many planes as the average landbase.

## Navy Plans to Test Weather Rocket

The Navy is planning to fire a missile 60 miles into the atmosphere in a hunt for weather data. Known as the HASP (for High Altitude Sounding Project) the projectile also uses a balloon, but for descent only. Upon reaching its summit, the rocket shell bursts open and releases a drop balloon and the packaged instruments. As it falls, the package is tracked by radar.

Slated for development by the Naval Ordnance Laboratory, the pencil-shaped device would add another 200,000 feet to the altitude already reached by a similar rocket in March.

The tests are aimed at providing the Navy with a relatively small, inexpensive, easily handled vehicle with which wind and weather data can be obtained quickly from the upper atmosphere by ships at sea.

Instruments in the rocket's cramped interior report the data to the ground by automatic radio.

Fired from a regular five-inch naval gun, the device gets its climbing boost from a rocket motor.

Ultimately the weather rockets may replace balloons now in use by the Navy for radar observations of wind conditions up to 80,000 feet.

Balloons have sometimes proved unsatisfactory at high altitudes because of a tendency to burst. They also pose launching and tracking problems at sea.



**QUESTION:**  
WHAT IS THE FIRST THING YOU PLAN TO DO WHEN WE ARRIVE IN THE STATES?



ROFEL

**JOSEPH F. ROFEL, AEC, VA(AM)-39**  
-- Upon our arrival in San Diego my immediate concern will be with the squadron's movement to our home base in Atlantic City, N.J. From there I plan to take a few days leave and visit with my folks in Philadelphia, Penna.

**ERNEST J. LEE, ABJ, S2L-DIV** -- When the ship hits the States I am looking forward to calling my wife in Massachusetts to make arrangements for her trip to the West coast. After 7½ months at sea I am also looking forward to some Stateside beer and fresh milk.



CAPT BONAR



POPE

**CAPT R. E. BONAR, MC, MEDICAL DEPT** -- When we arrive in the States I'll most likely stand aside to keep from being trampled to death by the "thundering herd" going over the side. I won't be taking leave right away. We live near the ship so I'll wait until after school is over to take the family out.

**THOMAS E. POPE, SGT, USMC, 7-DIV**  
-- As soon as we arrive in the States I plan to see my wife and two children. It will be a happy reunion for my wife and myself, and it will give me an opportunity to be a real father to my children. I have a son 1½ months old whom I have never seen.

## SAYONARA

To many fine shipmates of the past months. Notable among the departees will be CDR Warner, Operations Officer; CDR Wiss, Navigator; CDR Knight, Air Officer; CDR Beyer, Supply Officer; CDR Peck, Ordnance Officer; CDR Smith, Damage Control Assistant; LCDR Waddell, the luckiest man on board and CIC Officer; Air Task group 181; and for too many other good Bess men. Farewell and good luck.