

USS SHELTON--'FIRST SHIP' OF A NEW NAVY

Upon completion of her FRAM MK I overhaul on June 30, 1961, the USS SHELTON (DD-790) became the first ship to evaluate ComCruDesPac's Combat Organization program.

This program stems from the desire to maintain a complete sense of battle readiness while holding the same level of maintenance standards on the ship.

The basic unit of the Combat Organization is the General Quarters crew for each action station. A basic unity and mutual understanding does not exist in the General Quarters Crew of many ships since they meet only at General Quarters. But the Combat Organization provides for the Combat Group to berth as a unit in a compartment near the battle station, muster as a Combat Group each morning, and receive their basic Navy training and combat qualifications through this unit.

The maintenance of the equipment belonging to each General Quarters station is the responsibility of the crew that mans this station. An example of this is the repair party composed of firemen, seamen, corpsmen, messcooks and so forth. These are men of different technical levels and working backgrounds, but they are a combat team and are responsible for the damage control equipment they use at General Quarters. The inspection of the Zebra fittings, and watertight integrity in the area of the ship is their (repair party's) responsibility.

Several facets of the Combat Organization have already been evaluated as satisfactory for Fleet usage and have been published by ComCruDesPac. The preventative program has been grouped into a workbook which lists the maintenance checks to be performed, the personnel responsible, and provides plastic status boards to show the amount of preventative maintenance performed. Also up for consideration is the General In Port Emergency Party as in use on the SHELTON and which is based upon the division of the Combat Groups into three duty sections for liberty. This Emergency Party is designed to use the complete duty section effectively so that it can be ready in seconds to meet any emergency. The Emergency Party provides for a Mobile Repair Party, manning of all engineering spaces, radio, combat, signal bridge, bridge, and armed guards; all tied together through sound powered circuits so that the CDC on the bridge has control of the entire duty section and has reports on action being taken. Each man knows his job for he is doing the same job that his General Quarters team would do if the entire crew were aboard.

The CAMERA Asks:

WHAT FAR EAST PORT THAT
WE HAVE VISITED DO YOU
LIKE THE BEST? WHY?

J.S. Rose, HML, H Div.
Subic Bay because the



people can be characterized by their generosity and friendliness to guests; this was emphasized on two occasions while attending ship's divisional parties three families brought t roast pigs and did most of the cooking for a number of personnel.

D.L. Hezeltime, BM3,
Second Division says: I

liked Yokosuka because of the many naval facilities available where gifts could be purchased for relatives and for one's own use, and there was hardly any problem of transportation.



C. E. Burton, YN3, R
Division states: that the



Philippines have the best liberty ports in WesPac. The people demonstrate a warm welcome for sailors and it's outstanding for the people-to-people program; needless to mention the girls and I like them all---TOO!