

They Answered The Call ...

On July 3, 1863, the third day of the Battle of Gettysburg in the War Between the States, an hour's fighting gave American history one of its most valorous moments. The decisive moment came at one o'clock under a broiling sun when Gen. Robert E. Lee ordered a Confederate frontal assault on the Union line stretching across Cemetery Ridge. Across a gentle valley atop Seminary

Ridge were 15,000 Confederate troops, under General George E. Pickett. Two hours of thunderous shelling abruptly halted and Pickett's charge began. Moving into devastating Union fire, the Confederate line swept across the valley and up the slope to the Federal center. For 20 minutes the Confederate line held, then yielded to superior forces and fell back, a pitiful remnant of a gallant army. Just as bravely, Federal troops fought off the surge, known as the Confederacy's "high water mark." After that, Confederate strength steadily dwindled and the Union was saved.



FROM CHAPLAIN PEPERA

Lacordaire, the celebrated preacher, was dining one day at a hotel table across from a commercial traveler who was indulging loudly in wazy witticisms against abstinence, bigotry, superstition, etc. Finally, seeing that the unknown religious man was paying no attention to him, he addressed him directly as he passed the dish of omelets from which he had taken more than his share.

"For my part, Monsieur," he said, sneeringly, "I make it a rule not to believe what I cannot understand. Is that not reasonable?"

"Monsieur," answered Lacordaire politely, as he helped himself to the small portion of omelet which his questioner had left him, "do you understand how it is that the fire which makes iron and lead soft has made these eggs hard?"

"Upon my word I know nothing about that," answered the traveler puzzled by the unusual question.

"Nor I," answered the religious man, "but I see that it does not prevent you from believing in omelets."

FROM BEHIND THE 8 BALL

The months of May and June have been busy months for HS-8. Not only were the visits to Kong Kong and Subic Bay very profitable, but operationally the squadron deserves an attaboy for its outstanding performance in Operation Ligtas.

Congratulations to Lt. Don Cooley and Lt.(jg) John Gartner for walking away from the 13 thousandth helicopter landing aboard "Big Ben." The crewmen along for the ride and the historic event were Harry Daifer, AKA, and "J. J." Jones, AMS2. The landing occurred as BENNINGTON was operating in Japanese waters.

What more can we say after the "well done's" from COMSEVENTH FLEET and the higher-ups, but sincere congratulations for the outstanding performance of Lt.(jg) Joe Tisler and Lt.(jg) Lew Knevel for saving old number 54 from the "deep six;" an HS-3A first.

All officers and men of HS-8 bid Chief Haynes, YNC, a fond goodbye and smooth sailing as he departs the squadron for duties with COMNAVAIRPAC staff at NAS North Island. Goodbye also to Lt. Mike O'Connor who, after more than four years in HS-8, departed for the Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey, California. Good luck, Mike.

The following we welcome to higher rank and pay grades: Cdr. John Jones; LCDr. Jim Ehl; Lt. Jerry Kennedy; Lt. Bob Swartz; Lt.(jg) Dean Jung; Lt.(jg) John Garrett; Lt.(jg) Marv Schiffman; J. K. Nordlund, AN; W. W. Olds, AKA; R. L. Layne, AN; and D. P. Thompson, SN.

