

Although the primary duty of the Stewards aboard BENNINGTON consists of providing services for the ship's officers, their tasks often extend "above and beyond the call of normal duty." Each of BENN's Stewards must be familiar with the correct procedure for setting up and serving a formal or informal dinner which may involve dignitaries or guests visiting BENNINGTON.

One of the most difficult tasks these men must master is the understanding of each and every officer in the Wardroom whether it be the manner in which to greet an officer in the morning or the correct way of serving each officer as an individual.

BENNINGTON's Stewards are assigned more than one task to perform during the day. Every Steward that works in the Wardroom is also assigned custody of several staterooms, the overall condition of which is his responsibility. Each of BENNINGTON's Stewards stands several watches throughout the week, such as the coffee watch, phone watch and Wardroom watch.

The only Stewards which vary from the normal ship's billet are the Captain's and the Admiral's Steward. These are the only Stewards on BENNINGTON assigned to one particular man. Unlike the Captain's Steward, who is selected from the ship's Stewards billet, the billet of Admiral's Stewards is filled by the Bureau of Personnel.

"One of the basic desires that a good Steward must possess is the desire to like and understand people," stated Chief Merricks, Senior Steward aboard BENNINGTON.

While spending an enjoyable evening at a night club, dining out at a fine restaurant, or spending a vacation at a first class hotel, keep in mind that the manager may have been a Steward aboard BENNINGTON.



One of BENN's Stewards straightens and cleans a stateroom.

CDR Hughes selects a choice piece of meat from a Steward catering to BENN's Commanders's table.

