

# THE EXEC ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS

In an effort to keep the crew informed on questions concerning Bennington and Naval policies, the Executive Officer, CDR J.J. Hilton, Jr., will personally answer queries submitted by the men of the Bennington.

All questions should be submitted to the JET BLAST.

## WHY DOESN'T BENNINGTON OBSERVE "ROPEYARN SUNDAY"?

In case you haven't noticed, the U.S. Navy has pretty generally stopped observing "Ropeyarn Sunday" since the beginning of World War II. It is defined as "Any free time other than Sunday or a holiday for taking care of personal matters such as clothing." The modern navy, with its laundries, tailor shops and other conveniences, has no requirement for such use of free time. Further, Captain's Inspection used to be held every Saturday morning without fail and liberty did not usually start until around noon or later. Nowadays, particularly in port, Saturdays and other free time are devoted to granting liberty as much as possible. At sea, present operating schedules do not allow sufficient time to schedule "Ropeyarn Sunday" on Wednesdays or any other time.

WHEN THE SHIP IS ANCHORED, COULDN'T LIBERTY BOATS BE RUN MORE OFTEN DURING THE LATE EVENING HOURS? AS AN EXAMPLE, IN MANILA MANY MEN WAITED TWO HOURS FOR BOATS BECAUSE THE SCHEDULE WOULD NOT ALLOW BOATS TO RUN UNTIL 2300 AND 2400. IT IS VERY EASY TO GET ASHORE BUT ALMOST A MAJOR PROBLEM TO GET BACK TO THE SHIP.

When a ship is required to run boats to two different landings, it is always extremely difficult to have a lush schedule. There are simply not enough boats or crews. In Manila, the attempt was made to have a boat for Manila and Sangley every hour. After the first day, the boats started to run hot and break down while the crews were forced to eat their meals in the boats. Every effort has always been made in this ship, and always will be, to provide the maximum possible in liberty boats and during the late hours boats are always shuttled to take care of the large crowds on the dock. There is not reason for anyone to have to wait on the dock two hours for a boat if some attention is paid to the published boat schedule and an effort is made to be on the dock in time to catch it.

## In Memoriam



She was lovely, charming and talented, but Fate decreed that she should leave us. To Grace Kelly, we bid a tearful farewell. As for Prince Ranier of Monaco, we just suggest that he keep his Navy far away from the USS BENNINGTON.

According to the National Geographic Society, the latest jet aircraft engine makes a noise louder than would be produced by half the world's population talking at once.

