

~~SPEAR POINTS~~ →

News for and about the crew of the USS L.Y. SPEAR 27 May 1983

The cloudy Monday morning of May 16th did little to dull the spirits of the staff of L.Y. SPEAR's S-2 and S-5 (Food Services) Divisions.

May 16th was the day Food Services was evaluated as a finalist for the Navy's 1983 NEY Awards. The awards program for excellence is co-sponsored by the International Food Service Executives Association.

During the initial personnel review one of the evaluators commented that the three person team would be pleased if the entire operation proved to be as "impressive" as the crisply uniformed staff. Good impressions as such require work, as Food Service personnel well know.

Many long hours preceded and followed the first NEY inspection, which resulted in the SPEAR's selection as a finalist.

Of the past several months' work improving Food Service spaces and refining services for the crew, DP2 Lloyd Nance said, "We all worked together. We all pushed each other painting, drilling and cleaning." Petty Officer Nance is a Master-at-Arms in the Enlisted Dining Facility and supervises the work of Food Service Attendants.

The Master-at-Arms said a cheer evolved over the year among the FSA's:

Go NEY
all the way
everyday!

The drive for the first place NEY Award continued through the weekend before the final evaluation. Most Food Service personnel were at work at 0630 Sunday May 15th putting final touches in their spaces and preparing for questions from the evaluators.

NEY AWARDS



Food Services Impressive

The Bake Shop crew was at work even earlier. In fact, MS3 Steven Garcia said the three people in that shop had each had a total of 10 hours sleep during the preceding 10 days.

But of her long hours preparing for the inspection, MS3 Agnes Gibbs of the Vegetable Prep Room said, "We all want to win."

NEY (cont)

The L.Y. SPEAR crew has benefited from Food Services goal of excellence. Pleased faces in the Enlisted Dining Facility undoubtedly are the result of the impressive operation, about which the evaluators jointly commented as they left the L.Y. SPEAR.

A colorful Bake Shop creation was the centerpiece in the Enlisted Dining Facility during the evaluation. The 216 piece cake, actually four sheet cakes combined was decorated with a design of the L.Y. SPEAR and an old clipper ship. Production of the cake took about four hours, said MSCS Romeo Caldejon.

NEY winners will be announced by the Secretary of the Navy in June.

The NEY memorial Awards Finalist Evaluation Team included: CAPT Sam Steen, SC, USN, Executive Officer Food Service Systems Office; CDR Alan E. Mataldi, MSC, USN, Naval Environmental Health Center, Naval Medical Council and John P. Watson, member of the International Food Service Executives Association and past president of the Buffalo, New York Branch, and founder and former president of Watson's Restaurant and Candies.

L.Y. SPEAR RE-ENLISTMENTS

The following people reenlisted aboard the USS L.Y. SPEAR.

MS3 Agnes C. Gibbs, 4 years; NCCS Dennis L. Clinton, 6 Years; BMCS Forrest D. Leavesly, 2 years; DT3 Chris A. Deats, 4 years; HM1 David C. Austin, 6 years and MM2 Mark A. Clark, 6 years.

CONGRAULATIONS TO ALL

Personnel Awarded

The following personnel were presented formal letters by CDR Neil Jenkins, Repair Officer, April 15th. The crew members were recognized for their support during preparations for the January PARE inspection.

They were:

PM1 Veron Morgan - Letter of Commendation from Commander Submarine Squadron Six; HT2 Caprice Schaefer -Letter of Appreciation from Commander Submarine Squadron Six; HT2 Scott Love and ML3 Renee Ambrosecchio -Letters of Commendation from Commanding Officer, USS L.Y. SPEAR and TML/DV Thomas Stevenson, HT3 Donald Saphore and HTFN Rene Schaefer -Letters of Appreciation from Commanding Officer, USS L.Y. SPEAR. Receiving a Letter of Appreciation from Commanding Officer, Naval Intelligence Support Center was PM3 Mary Heberling.

Petty Officer Heberling designed and made "a distintly defined" new command mold which was "a boost to the morale of personnel of the command," according to the letter.

Sports Shorts...

If your ballgame is on the courts instead of the field, you may be interested in the Forces Afloat Tennis League now forming on the base.

An organizational meeting of captains will be May 31 at McCormick Sports Center. Contact SN Becky Ollis, Special Services Coordinator at ext. 7401 if you are interested.

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by JO3 Kathryn A. McConnell

The United States is a vital component of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Six military representatives to NATO had an opportunity to view a showplace of the U.S. Submarine Force--the USS L.Y. SPEAR---May 11.

Norfolk, Virginia, as headquarters to the U.S. Atlantic Fleet and NATO, is frequently visited by European representatives to the alliance who are eager to meet Navy officials and get first hand views of facilities.

The warmth of this spring afternoon was personally extended to the foreign guests by CAPT R. F. Kelly, Commanding Officer, USS L.Y. SPEAR and other officers of the L.Y. SPEAR and Submarine Squadron SIX.

The group, accompanied by CAPT G. B. Curtis, SUBLANT Chief of Staff, included:

Master General N. Holst-Soerensen of the Danish Air force; Lieutenant General B. Cottone, Italian Air Force; Rear Admiral E. Pouillet, Belgian Navy; Lieutenant General F. R. Ventosa, Spanish Army; Vice Admiral J. H. Scheuer, The Netherlands Navy; and Captain F. H. Visscher, also from the Netherlands.

SACLANT members of the May 11 tour were: Vice Admiral Sir David Hallifax, United Kingdom Navy and Lieutenant Peter Gilbert, United Kingdom Navy.

After their official welcomes at the Quarterdeck with pipes and salutes, the European officers were cordially greeted by CAPT Kelly. Then they were guided up the Executive Ladder to the cabin of CAPT T.W. Evans, Commander, Submarine Squadron SIX, for a briefing.

L. Y. SPEAR's home berth is at the Destroyer and Submarine Piers of the Norfolk Naval Base---not far from Norfolk International Terminals.

The Hampton Roads Harbor area has historically been a busy area, accomodating much of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet, the U.S. Coast Guard and a thriving Merchant Marine industry.

SHIP HOSTS

NATO OFFICIALS

L.Y. SPEAR tours always include the newly remodeled dining facility and other crew service areas that testify to the command's sincere concern for crew morale and its achievements in improving living conditions.

In the dining area, as CAPT Kelly explained how personnel may choose among fast food items, complete dinners, and elaborate salad and dessert bars, the visitors could easily see that on the L.Y. SPEAR, the Navy person is important.

The Commanding Officer also explained the following week's inspection for the NEY Awards. NEY are Navy-wide awards to outstanding food service facilities. The L.Y. SPEAR has won in several past years, as displayed by plaques on the bulkhead. The ship is a finalist again this year.

A later stop on the tour was the submarine tender's own Baskin-Robbins Ice Cream Store---the only such facility afloat.

Several repair work areas were also seen. In the Machine Shop, the officers viewed precision work with a metal lathe.

As a follow-up to the inspection of the SUBRON SIX tender, the tour was directed to one of the squadron's submarines---the USS LAPON.

The next day, the L.Y. SPEAR again hosted an important visitor to Tidewater. He was the Prospective Chief of Naval Material RADM Richard A. Miller.

Both visits indicate that the Navy has judged the L.Y. SPEAR to be a worthy display of the sea force's Pride and Professionalism.

Ships appearance is 2nd-Division

Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Veterans Day. These spring through autumn dates are major occasions when civilian and military visitors tour the D & S Piers area. They are times when L.Y. SPEAR'S exterior can make strong impressions.

Maintaining the ship's appearance and deck equipment is a high priority of the entire Deck Department. And, as the majority of sideboys for ceremonies and VIP visits, Deck Department personnel, in inspection perfect uniforms, project a proud image of the L.Y. SPEAR.

Specifically, Deck's 2nd Division is responsible for the preservation of the 02 and 03 level weatherdecks and the fantail. Currently major upgrading work is being performed on these weatherdecks, including the Front Porch and Boat Deck. The work involves taking the decks down to bare metal and completely refinishing the surfaces, according to LTjg M. A. Farren, the ship's First Lieutenant.

Second Division is also responsible for preserving and operating the L.Y. SPEAR'S two 5-ton cranes and one 15-ton crane. Personnel work daily with the cranes supporting weapons moves, repair jobs, assistance to ships alongside and the loading and unloading of Supply Department stores. Select 2nd Division personnel are included on the Special Weapons Handling Team.

Preservation and operation of all L.Y. SPEAR small boats, including lifeboats and the Captain's and Commodore's gigs, are also 2nd Division responsibilities. Personnel who qualify as Boat Coxswain or boat crew members take out the Captain, Commodore and their VIP guests when required.

In port, 23rd Division personnel stand JOOD, Messenger of the Watch and DC Central Watch. On special occasions, the division provides a ceremonial Boatswain's Mate to pipe aboard VIP's.



Priority



BOATSWAIN'S MATE



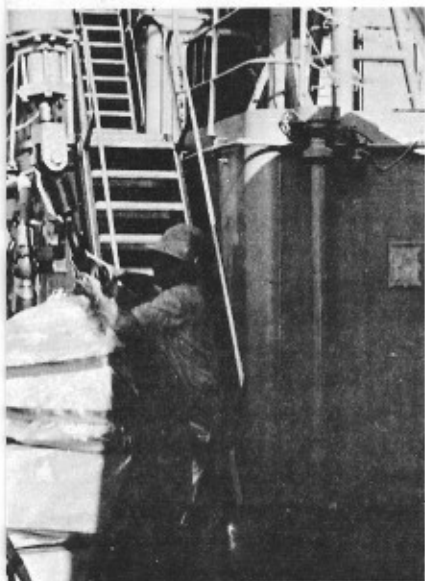
SPOTLIGHT

Underway, the division's watches include: lookout, helm, lee helm and Boatswain's Mate of the Watch. Second Division personnel also serve on the ready lifeboat crew.

Second Division Officer is BML Donald Hecke and Leading Petty Officer is BML Andre Jones. Other division personnel are: BM2 Rodney Moore, BM2 Robert Stehr, BM2 Peggy Askew, BM3 Davis Farmer, BM3 Kathy Kerns, BM3 David Copeland, BM3 Barbara Wesley, BM3 David Kane;

BMSN Gigi Jones, BMSN Stanley Fitzgerald, BMSN Rhonda Tressler, BMSN Jacqueline Jones, SN David Shrimplin, SN Terry Miller, SN Tommy Hightower, Jr., SN David Earman, SN Dianne Griffin, SN Janice Farris, SN John Brennan;

SA Catherine Knight, SA Dennis Weber, SA Lawrence Cuccurullo, SA Bradley Spears, SA Frank Pautienus, SA Reginald Talbert, SA Derrick McFarland, SA Margaret Baker, SR Gaspar Santos, SR Michael Hardman, SR Michael Rhyne, FN Galveston Vives, FA Samuel Hill, YNSN John Williams, SKSA John Vzialko and Food Service Attendants SN Christopher Saville, SN Billy Brewer, SN Edward Smart, SN Bobby Brown, SA Vernise Harry, SR Earl Blair, SR Elbert Kuykendall, SR Anthony Young and FN Gary Waldron.



AMERICA. A PERSONAL VIEW

by RP2 Philip E. Mark

With the approach of Memorial Day and Independence Day, we ought to sit down and think about America. What is America? What is an American? America is a country made up of 50 States allworking together, being a union. but are we really one, I grew up in a neighborhood where black was black, and white was white, and never the two shall meet. I never cared for this theory or way of life. I grew up in a gang like most of the kids in my neighborhood. Within this gang we had various "colorful" people from all kinds of backgrounds. The gang was nicknamed the Oreos because of the difference in color. It didn't matter much to us though. We were friends. At one point we were calling each other brothers. We never really considered each other different. When I was in high school I was told America was called the melting pot of the world. Everyone came to America to leave behind their past. They wanted to be Americans. Now it seems that everyone is more interested in being Italians, Germans, French, Afro-Americans, etc. No one wants to be an American any more. People have become so wrapped up in their past that they have forgotten who they are. I was born in America and am proud to be called an American. I am not an Indian, Scotsman, or any other kind of person, I am an American. I have heard people say that, "I have Italian in my blood," or, "I've got three parts German in my blood." I have seen some of my friends bleed and when I compare it to my blood it doesn't look any different to me. I've never heard a Corpsman call for German blood, or Italian blood.

My point is this, most of us have been born and raised in America, yet we consider ourselves Italian, Afro-American, German, and so on. I don't think we are; I think we're Americans. Are you more proud of your roots and ancestors than you are about your own life? I don't consider myself

prejudiced, and I don't care much for those who are. They are missing a lot in life. I am not knocking people's past and their heritage. There's nothing wrong with knowing your family's history and lineage. You just shouldn't get wrapped up in it so much that you forget you are an American. I think that it is good to remember those who made today possible for us to live. Without our forefathers we would not be here in American today. But we have today to live for and we need to make it good for those who must follow. We need to examine ourselves and see just how we treat our fellow American brothers and sisters. I encourage all of us to sit down and take the chance to take a look at ourselves as Americans and not as some other type of person. Then maybe our future as a nation will take a turn for the better and our children will be proud to call themselves Americans. We have an Afro-American week, a Scottish National week, and a dozen other weeks and months, but what happened to American Week?

Growth workshop

A Navy program that many Navy people have found to be a turning point in their lives is offering a workshop the weekend of June 2-5 at Ft. Story.

In a reflective atmosphere, the weekend retreat is a time to get in touch with feelings, develop awareness and trust and discover inner resources, according to a CREDO Center spokesperson.

The workshop begins Thursday June 2 at 5 p.m. and continues until Sunday afternoon, June 5. It is open to all active duty military personnel and their dependents. No cost TAD orders may be arranged.

For more information about CREDO, contact Senior Chief Mike Lindbergh, CAAC Counselor, at ext. 7421, or phone the Credo Center at 444-1091/1092.

Diver becomes off-duty Hero

It had been an enjoyable Friday evening. Hard work all week had primed the three off duty Navy men for a few relaxing hours of night club music and crowds.

At almost midnight, they decided it was time to head for home. As one of the men stayed inside of the building to use the restroom, the other two brought their car from the parking lot across the street to the night club's front door.

The driver got to check on the friend inside. The third man remained in the passenger's seat. But not for long.

As he watched his buddy walk away from the car he saw two other men appear from around the building's dark corner. The relaxing Friday night had become tense. One of the men carried a .25 caliber semi-automatic pistol and they were attempting to rob the Navy man.

This suspenseful situation could be the start of a television program. actually, it is the real account of the night of March 20th, 1983, as experienced by crew members of the USS L.Y. SPEAR, and it was the setting for an heroic stand against danger by FN/DV George C. Dirks.

When Dirks heard one of the gunmen say to ENFN Ronald P. Cowles, "This is a robbery, give us your money," Dirks hurried out of the car to lend assistance.

Both Cowles and Dirks told the assailants they had no money to turn over. Then, in Dirks words:

"He (the man with the gun) said that he would, 'blow me and my friend away,' if we did not cooperate. I then decided that if we were going to get shot we may as well go down fighting.

"I began walking towards the man with the gun, asking him to give it to me. He took one step back and shot at me, grazing my side.

"I then grabbed the wrist of the man and he shot again, this time missing me.

"After the second shot, he and his friend took off running in opposite directions and I followed the one with the gun." The race lasted only one-half block.

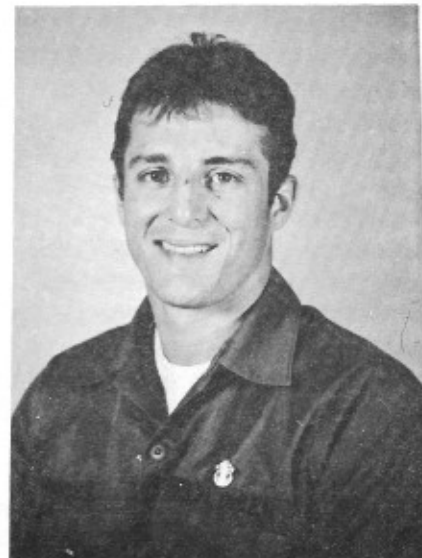
FN/DV Dirks caught up with the armed assailant and a physical fight ensued. The gun twice more discharged, both times missing Dirks. Finally Dirks knocked the gun from the attacker's hand and subdued the man. The Norfolk City Police arrived at the scene shortly afterward.

LT Jack Copes, R-6 Division Officer, said FN/DV Dirks' "courageous and prompt actions in the face of great personal danger undoubtedly saved his shipmate from being robbed and perhaps gravely injured."

The act of bravery also, "was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service," stated LT Copes.

The assailant whom Dirks wrestled to the ground was arrested by the police. His accomplice escaped apprehension.

MMFN Michael Ayers was the third L.Y. SPEAR crew member who had enjoyed the earlier part of the evening with FN/DV Dirks and ENFN Cowles.



Everybody likes to go to a wedding! A wedding is a very serious occasion, and I have never gotten over the urge to shed a few tears during the ceremony. Whether or not this is a sign of weakness I do not know, but the ceremony always impresses me with its serious side.

Too many people enter into this part of life with little preparation. Don't you think if a little more serious thought were given to marriage there would be less divorce? As a minister I will not marry a couple without spending several hours with them explaining the importance of the marriage compact! Therefore, my first suggestion to all young people contemplating marriage would be that they ask God to guide them in their choice of a mate. Since so much depends upon one's mate, then it is surely worth praying about.

I would tell such couples that the first two years are the most difficult! Adjustments must be made! No longer can one do as one pleases. The man will be wise in giving his wife a free hand in running the house. If a picture is to be hung what is the use of arguing over it's placement?

Take the question of money, and that is a tough one! The best plan is to set up a budget. Let the wife have an allowance, and except for unusual expenditures let her live within the agreed amount. The husband living on an allowance can work wonders too! don't buy beyond the means to pay. One must be most careful with credit cards or plastic money.

Start buying a house even if this means sacrifice. If possible have children early in your married life. There is nothing like children to keep the home together.

Oh, yes, and always look your best! You spared nothing while courting to make an impression. Well, do even more to hold that love. Most men do not like to see a women in curlers, and women frown on a man who comes to breakfast

Chaplains Chat



on a Sunday morning without a shirt and needing a shave. I must tell you one more thing! If you would have an ideal home, read the Bible together every day and pray together. You can't sit together to read God's word if you are angry with each other.

If you want a happy home you can have it, but you must make your contribution toward it. It takes 100% from each mate! Why do I talk like this? Because married life can be beautiful! Our own experience has proven it. Marriage is that continuation of courtship!