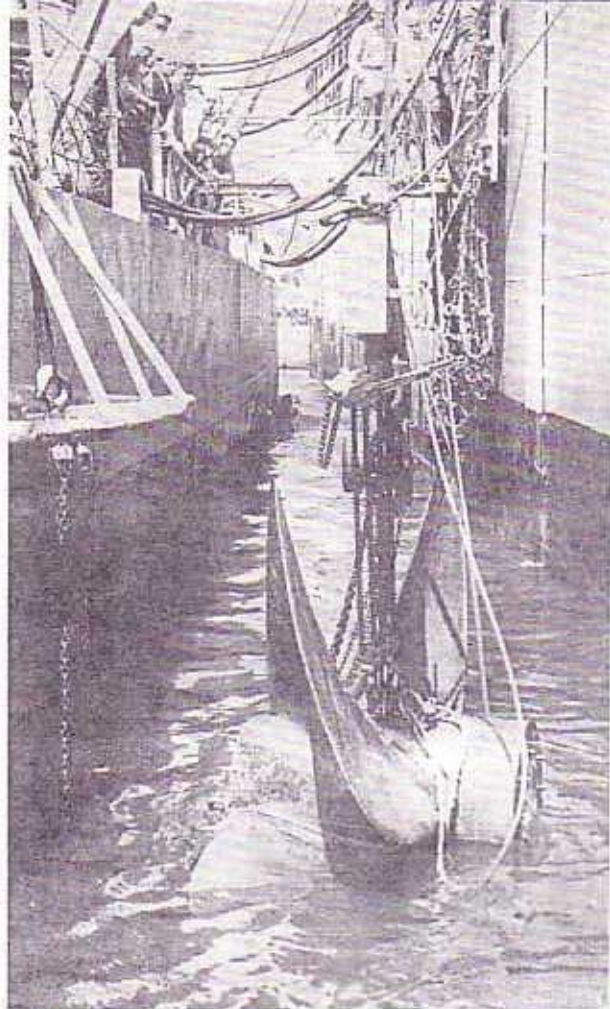


Life in an AD—



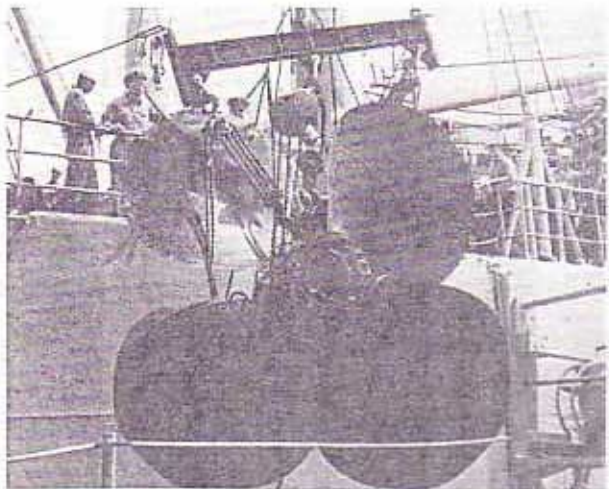
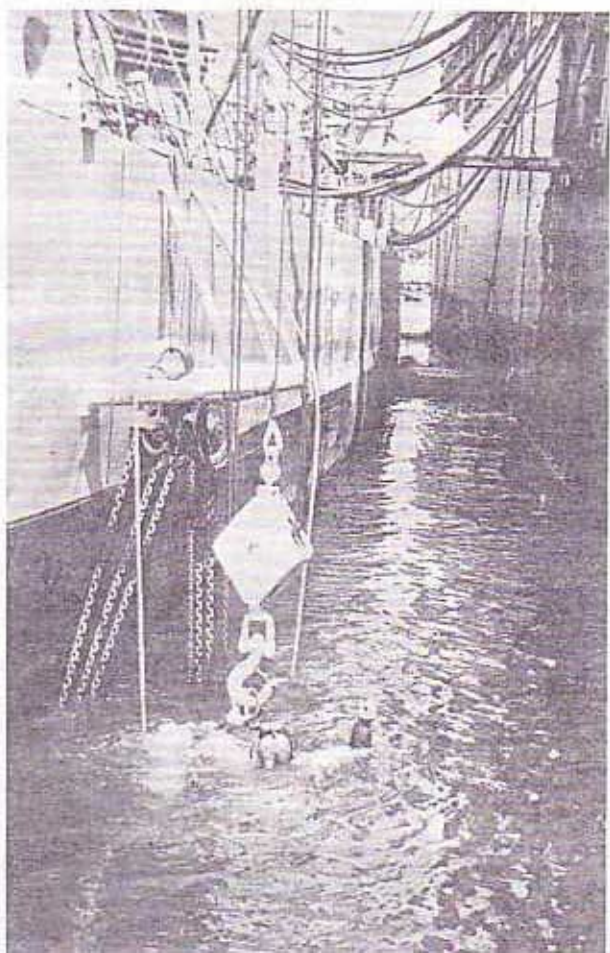
A New Prop

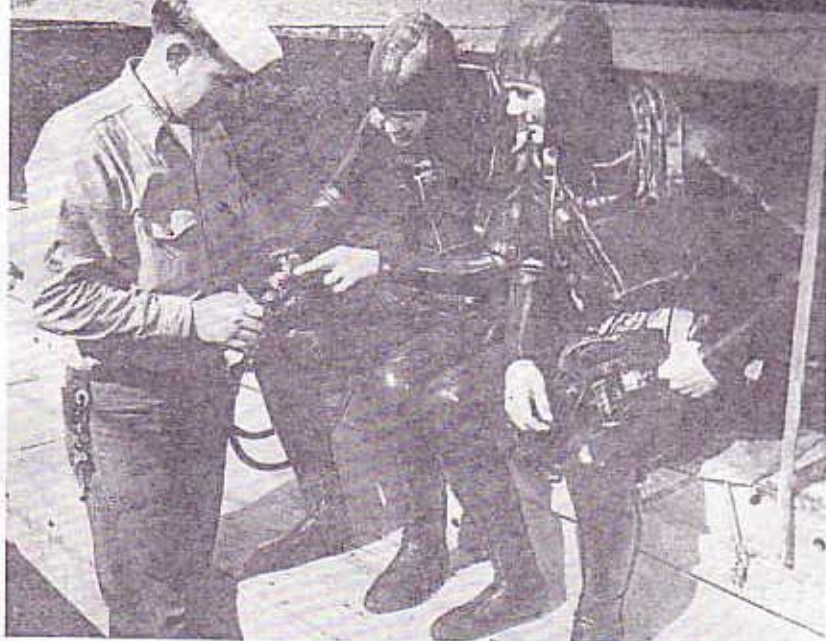
THE DESTROYER TENDER USS *Frontier* (AD 25), based at Long Beach, Calif., undertook the tough task of changing a propeller of the destroyer USS *Mansfield* (DD 728), while the DD was alongside. This type of job is usually performed in the drydock of a shipyard. *Mansfield's* propellers weigh more than nine tons each, measure 12 feet, eight inches between blade tips.

A five-foot wrench, moved by tackle, was needed to unscrew the giant nut on the end of the propeller shaft. Then the propeller was jarred loose with a small explosive charge. Chain hoists, cables, and a boom were used to hoist the faulty propeller aboard *Frontier* and to lower the new one to *Mansfield*. The job took plenty of technical know-how by the crew, plus some 116 hours of underwater work by the ship's divers.

Five divers took part in the underwater phase of the job. From the time *Frontier* was assigned the task until she completed it, only a little more than a week elapsed. Another satisfied customer was as good as new.

Upper right: Divers start down to investigate. *Lower right:* The faulty 18,500-pound propeller is taken aboard *Frontier*. *Upper left:* Replacement propeller is lowered from tender. *Lower left:* Mission accomplished.





Hull Divers

NEWSPAPERS, magazines, movies and television have made many people aware of the Navy's Underwater Demolition (UDT) and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Teams.

Not so often heard of are the *hull repair divers* on destroyer tenders such as *uss Bryce Canyon* (AD 36). Her diving gang, led by Chief Warrant Officer A. C. Von Behren, usn, has tackled everything from replacing damaged propellers on a destroyer to recovering an auto that had run off a bridge into 60 feet of water.

The gang is made up of one first and five second class divers who are qualified to work with deep-sea and shallow-water diving gear at depths of 150 feet. All are accomplished Scuba divers. They are also jacks-of-all-trades, with the qualifications of boatswain's mates, shipfitters and machinery repairmen—qualifications which are essential in the underwater hull inspection and repair work they perform.

Top Left: Diver is rigged for work. *Top right:* Rubber-suited divers check air valve. *Right:* Diver goes below to check hull. *Bottom Right:* USS *Bryce Canyon* hull-repair divers pose for photo. *Bottom Left:* Scuba diver is readied for a tough and delicate job.

