

icer. They may wear civilian clothes while on leave and liberty and may wear them to and from shore activities when so authorized by the commanding officer.

The wearing and stowing of civilian clothes on station is a privilege granted only by the commanding officer to deserving personnel and is dependent on the mission of the station, its physical layout, barracks arrangement, recreational facilities and security requirements.

Such a privilege, if granted, would undoubtedly increase morale but it is impracticable to grant at all stations. There is no official action for you to initiate other than to request that your commanding officer consider granting this privilege.—Ed.

Insignia of Other Services

Sir: I am a seaman with prior service in the U.S. Army and am entitled to wear the "Combat Infantry Badge." I have received conflicting information concerning the wearing of this badge on my Navy uniform and have been unable to find definite information concerning this in either *Uniform Regulations* or the *Awards and Decorations Manual*.

Am I authorized to wear this badge on my Navy uniform, and if so, under what circumstances?—C.D.S., SN, USN.

• We are certain that you view this badge with great pride and well you should. However, U.S. Navy Uniform Regulations do not authorize you to wear it on your Navy uniform.

The *Combat Infantry Badge* is classed in the Army as a *Ground Badge* and is awarded for satisfactory performance of duty while assigned or attached as a member of an infantry unit of regimental or smaller size during any period such unit was engaged in active ground combat. Other badges in the general category of *Ground Badges* include aviation badges and parachutist badges.

In the Navy, badges of this type are classed as insignia. The wearing of in-



THROUGH SUNNY SEAS—USS Floyd's Bay (AVP 40) cruises in Pacific waters off Point Loma. Home port for the small seaplane tender is San Diego.

signia earned while in another service is not permitted on the naval uniform. The only specific reference to this in "Uniform Regulations" is found in Article 1303.2(b).—Ed.

Retired Pay at Highest Rank

Sir: I have been told I will be reverted to my permanent status—CWO, W-4—in the very near future. Since I have completed over 23 years of service, I have the option of either reverting, or retiring now.

If I did choose to retire now it would be as LCDR with 23 years' service, which means I would draw \$331.80 a month in retirement pay. However, if I reverted and remained on active duty for four more years as W-4, and could then retire after 27 years' service, my retirement pay would come to \$400.14 per month—if it were based on the pay of LCDR with that much service.

Therefore, my question is: If I remain on active duty for the extra four years, will I be retired as LCDR, or as W-4?—J. C. O., LCDR, USN.

• Technically, you'd be retired as a W-4. But, according to BuPers Inst.

1811.1A, you would be advanced to the rank of LCDR on the Retired List after your retirement, and you would be entitled to retired pay based on that rank (provided, of course, that the Secretary of the Navy determined that your service as LCDR was satisfactory). The retired pay based on the higher grade would be effective from the date of retirement. In other words, you would get the \$400.14.—Ed.

NEASP Time Counts

Sir: As I understand it, to be eligible for the NEASP (Naval Enlisted Advanced School Program) one must obligate himself for six years. In the case of a Reserve on active duty, he will be enlisted into the regular Navy with equivalent rate, for six years.

The first two years will be spent in some university, and the man will draw the pay and allowances of his rate.

Can you supply me with answers to the following: (1) Exactly how will this time spent in school count or be computed for retirement purposes? (2) Will a Reservist, regardless of rate or rating, be eligible for reenlistment bonus? (3) Approximately how many men per year will be selected for this program? (4) What would happen with a man failing this program?—E. A. L., USNR (TAB).

• Time spent in school (NEASP) will count as any active duty time for retirement purposes. Provided a Reservist has served on active duty for a period of one year before enlisting in the Regular Navy, he will be eligible for reenlistment bonus. This will apply to personnel in both open and closed ratings. However, only those personnel selected will be enlisted in the Regular Navy. Approximately 100 men a year will be selected for the NEASP. Personnel who fail are permitted to convert horizontally to the rating that was held upon entry, or convert to any rating for which they can qualify.—Ed.



THOR SPOT—Cable laying ship USS Thor (ARC 4) rests in San Francisco Naval Shipyard after having been in drydock receiving her regular overhaul.